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IF THE SHOE FITS ...
IN WHICH THE STORY OF SHANNON THE TEMP COMES TO ITS WONDERFUL, MAGICAL, FAIRY-TALE ENDING PAGE 14

Father makes tearful plea for info on son

Missing. Family looks for 'any clue, any lead' to whereabouts of Robert 'Bobby' Thomson Jr., who vanished July 2012

SHANE GIBSON
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

The father of a young Winnipeg man who vanished from city streets without a trace a little over a year ago made an emotional appeal Thursday for anyone with "any clue, any lead" about his missing son to talk to police.

"The police know, and we know in our hearts, somebody knows what's happened," said a teary-eyed Robert Thomson Sr. at a press conference, where police released new information about the last sighting of 21-year-old Robert "Bobby" Thomson Jr. "We all know he didn't disappear … we need to find him so we can have closure."

Police first asked the public for help finding Bobby last September, reporting the then-20-year-old had last been seen near Broadway Avenue and Spence Street at around 10:15 p.m. on July 20, 2012.

On Thursday, Det. Sgt. Shaunna Neufeld told media investigators now know Bobby was seen a full day later with an unknown man and woman at the Osborne Liquor Mart on the evening of July 21.

Neufeld said it is "completely out of character" for Bobby to be gone for as long as he has been without speaking to his family or close friends.

Bobby is white, five-foot-six, 140 pounds with a slim build, brown hair and blue eyes.

Anyone with any information is asked to call investigators at 204-986-6250 or Winnipeg CrimeStoppers at 204-786-TIPS.

Quoted

"Bobby was a free spirit ... he was a friendly guy who was always willing to give a friend a hand."
Det. Sgt. Shaunna Neufeld of the WPS's Missing Persons Unit

Robert Thomson Sr., whose son Robert "Bobby" Thomson Jr. has been missing since July 2012, makes an emotional appeal for information Thursday while Det. Sgt. Shaunna Neufeld of the WPS's Missing Persons Unit listens. INSET: A photo of Robert "Bobby" Thomson Jr. taken July 21, 2012 — the day police say he was last seen. SHANE GIBSON/METRO; INSET: COURTESY WPS

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NEWS 1

‘No choice’ budget includes tax hike, spending cuts: Coun.

City council. ‘Every year it’s getting harder and harder to balance the budget’: Russ Wyatt

BERNICE PONTANILLA
bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

Coun. Russ Wyatt, seen urging his fellow council members to support growth development charges during the Nov. 20 city council meeting, said the city needs to find new revenue streams. BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

The city’s finance chair confirmed the preliminary 2014 budget will include cuts and a tax hike of at least one per cent, but called media reports of an increase of just under three per cent “inaccurate.”

Coun. Russ Wyatt said the city has “no choice” when it comes to finding ways to reduce spending while at the same time putting more dollars towards infrastructure.

“They’ve been saying, ‘Every year it’s getting harder and harder to balance the budget’ and I think that’s true,” Wyatt told Metro on Thursday.

He also lashed out at the provincial government for increasing the PST in July by one percentage point, adding that the $7 million they’ve given to the city out of “$300 million is an insult to injury.”

Wyatt said the city has been left with no recourse but to find new revenue streams, such as the growth development charge (GDC), which council approved pursuing during its Nov. 20 meeting.

The GDC is a land development fee similar to ones other municipalities have, both in Manitoba and across Canada, that puts the fees collected towards building fire halls and pools for new neighbourhoods.

Funding announcements this week by Mayor Sam Katz have hinted at a tax increase. However, Katz would only confirm the one per cent for the Local Street Renewal Reserve, which was introduced in the 2013 budget last January.

“We have been very successful with our local street renewal, which if you recall was a one per cent property tax increase which was totally dedicated to our infrastructure, our local streets, our back lanes, our sidewalks, etc.,” said Katz following Wednesday’s executive policy committee meeting.

“I can assure you, you will be seeing that back at the table again, after that, I would never spoil your surprise for Friday.”

Watch metronews.ca/winnipeg for full budget coverage Friday.

2013 budget

The 2013 budget saw a total property tax increase of 3.87 per cent, with one per cent for the Local Streets fund and 2.87 per cent for the city’s coffers. It also included a controversial 10 per cent across-the-board cut to non-profit groups such as museums and the United Way.

Province has no plans to make winter tires mandatory

Winter tires won’t be mandatory in Manitoba. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

As Winnipeg drivers deal with traffic jams caused by winter’s first rush-hour snow dumps this week, those with winter tires may wonder why the guy struggling through an icy patch in front of them isn’t required to hang up the all-season treads through winter.

In Canada, Quebec is the only province that makes winter tire use mandatory during the snowy months, and, while the Province of Manitoba recognizes the benefits of winter tires, there are no plans to make them a requirement here.

“Manitoba road conditions tend to have significantly less snow, colder temperatures, (and) straight and flat roads, which differs from other jurisdictions that do mandate their use,” read an email from the province Thursday. “The Manitoba government does believe people should strongly consider using winter tires ... (but) The government is not currently considering mandatory use.”

Liz Peters from CAA Manitoba said the government’s position mirrors the results of a survey they did two years ago, which showed the majority of members don’t think winter tire use should be mandated.

“The cost associated with winter tires is quite prohibitive, and I think a lot of people would have a hard time with that,” explained Peters.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

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Legendary anchorman Ron Burgundy will make a mustachioed appearance in the River City this weekend, helping TSN call an end of curling during the Roar of the Rings on Sunday. Can't make it to the game? Here are some other hangouts that may attract the legendary anchorman.

ELISHA DACEY AND BERNICE PONTANILLA
winnipeg@metronews.ca

5 places in Winnipeg to find Ron Burgundy

1 Haunting the now-defunct bargain basement at The Bay

Expect Burgundy to take a trip down memory lane to the bargain basement at The Bay, where we're told he purchased many of his suits, once upon a time. And as you know, these suits were so fine, they made Sinatra look like a hobo.

2 The Whiskey Bar at the Toad in the Hole

Burgundy enjoys a good scotch — it goes down, down into his belly — so don't be surprised if you see the anchorman anchoring the bar at the Toad in the Hole, where last year they expanded and brought in the Whiskey Bar, with more than 160 choices of whiskey. (Scotch is a type of whiskey, FYI).

3 Hanging with Hudson at the Zoo

After Burgundy's last bear encounter, where he saved his co-worker Veronica, we're pretty sure Burgundy is now unofficially a member of bear-kind. Expect Burgundy to check out the new polar bear exhibit, go down the polar bear slide and ask Hudson for a ride around his enclosure.

4 The Palm Room at the Fort Garry Hotel

There aren't many places where a jazz flutist can let loose. We're betting he'll hit up The Palm Room at the Fort Garry Hotel, where there's many lovely tables to jump onto and light his flute on fire. It'll bring new meaning to the phrase, "Stay classy," anyway.

5 Epic spot for an iconic man

Where else can the legend continue in Winnipeg than at Portage and Main? But he'll do more than just jump over the barriers and cavort in the centre of the intersection in a Jets jersey. To make it truly epic, we're hoping he'll set up a boxing ring and challenge CTV anchorman Gord Leclerc to a duel. There may be horses and someone could catch fire. (We have 2-1 odds on Leclerc.)

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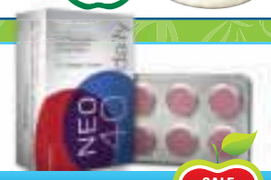

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Child-porn smuggler gets two-and-a-half years behind bars

Prison. Denys Valeriyovych Basov, 36, was sentenced Wednesday after pleading guilty to smuggling child pornography

Quoted

"This seizure reaffirms our role in the efforts to prevent the exploitation of children in Canada and around the world."

Lauren Delgaty, regional director general of the CBSA's Prairie Region

A man originally from Ukraine will spend the next two-and-a-half years in a Canadian prison after admitting Monday to bringing child pornography over the Emerson border back in May.

Denys Valeriyovych Basov, 36, was sentenced Wednesday after pleading guilty to smuggling child pornography after Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) officers found 337 images and six videos on a laptop as he tried to enter into Canada May 7.

The sentence is believed to be one of the most significant ever handed down for importing child pornography under the Customs Act.

"We are committed to keeping this prohibited material out of our communities," said Lauren Delgaty, regional director general of the CBSA's Prairie Region. "This seizure reaffirms our role in the efforts to prevent the exploitation of children in Canada and around the world."

A Ukrainian citizen, Basov was entering Canada from the U.S. on a valid Canadian work permit.

METRO

Storm to be unleashed on Saturday at the zoo

Hudson meets Storm at the Assiniboine Park Zoo on Wednesday for the first time since Storm was brought to the zoo from Churchill on Oct. 10. The 200 pound newcomer will be ready to meet the public at the zoo on Saturday, officials say. DAN HARPER/THE ASSINIBOINE PARK ZOO

Stolen machinery

Police on the prowl for Bobcat

Police are looking for a Bobcat track machine stolen from the 1700 block of Plessis Road earlier this month.

Anyone with information should call police at 204-986-3707 or Winnipeg Crime Stoppers at 204-786-TIPS.

METRO

Listener stats

Fall 2013 Winnipeg radio numbers released

The listener numbers are in and not much has changed at the top of the dials on Winnipeg radios.

BBM Canada released their Fall 2013 radio statistics Thursday and at the top of the heap in Winnipeg remains CJOB with a 12.8 per cent share of the market — exactly the same share it saw in the spring — CBC Radio One on the AM dial remains in second place with a 10.6 per cent share, but their numbers are down slightly from the 11.1 per cent share they had in the spring, and remaining in third place is country station QX 104 with a 9.8 per cent share, up 1.7 over their spring numbers.

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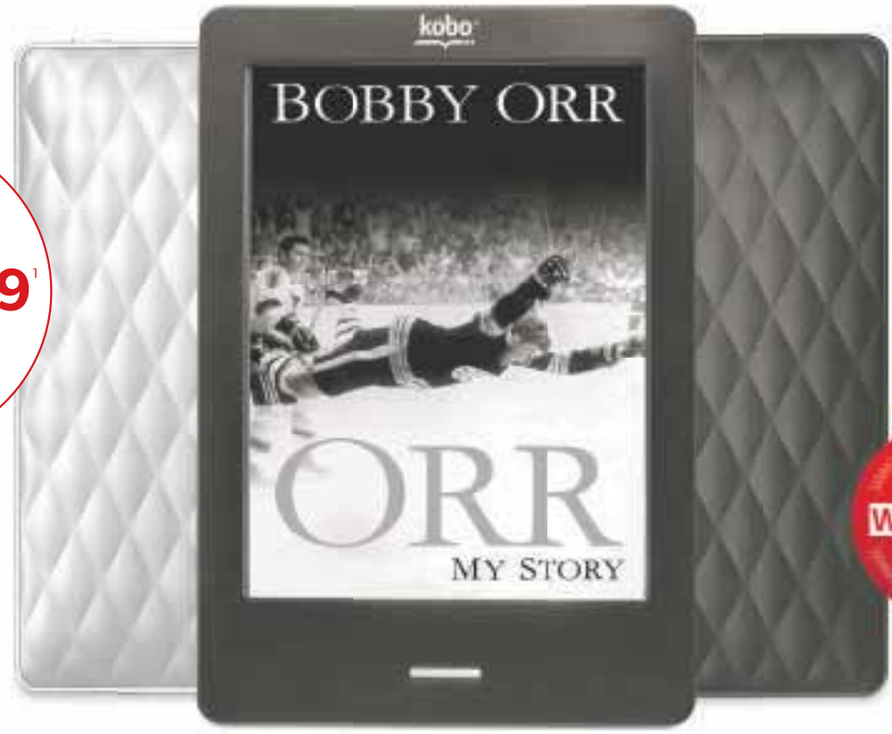

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From war to the model life

Healthy change.
Meet the London, Ont., retail manager who swapped a Syrian refugee camp for fitness and physique contests

MIKE DONACHIE
Metro in London, Ont.

Saadiya Ghanem, who left a refugee camp in Syria for a new life in Canada. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO IN LONDON, ONT.

Ghanem ready for competition. CONTRIBUTED

Canada offers many opportunities, but for one arrival from the troubled Middle East the change has been especially profound.

"In my culture, you're not even allowed to wear a bikini," said Saadiya Ghanem. "My parents were shocked."

Once, she was an Iraqi refugee in a camp in Syria. Now she's heading to Canada's national championships for fitness enthusiasts — in bikinis.

Ghanem, 29, a retail store manager in London, Ont., has earned a place in the Bikini, Figure, Fitness and Physique Championships in Edmonton next July. She qualified at a provincial contest in Toronto after beating 25 other women in a local competition.

When she was five years old, soon after Iraq invaded Kuwait, Ghanem was woken late at night by her parents.

"My dad was going to be taken away from us to be put in the army," she said. "He knew he wasn't going to come back. We decided one night that we needed to leave."

So they did. It was a six-hour walk in the rain, at night, but eventually they found themselves in a refugee camp. They stayed there for nine years.

It was basic, said a tearful Ghanem, with almost no health care and little education. She helped her mother as best she could but when the Canadian government sponsored them to come to Canada as refugees in 1999, the family of seven children and two adults jumped at the chance.

It was, of course, life-changing.

"There are just so many things that are better about Canada that I can't even name," said Ghanem, who was then 17. "The people here are amazing. There's so much more freedom."

And that freedom includes the chance to take part in the contest that sees people judged on fitness and physique.

It's different from bodybuilding, says Ghanem, because it's not so much about muscle. She says it's all about health, and she owes her health to Canada.

She said: "When I arrived in Toronto and got in the taxi, I was like, 'Wow.' It was like something I never thought I would see.

"I thought I would be in the camp forever."

Bikini body takes discipline

Eating for health

Saadiya Ghanem eats five times a day. Breakfast is eggs, toast and peanut butter and she follows it mid-morning with a protein shake and some almonds.

Lunch is chicken, sweet potatoes and unlimited greens, with another protein shake mid-afternoon. Supper is chicken, fish and more greens.

Once a week, Ghanem takes a day off and eats whatever she wants. She likes burgers, fries and cheesecake.

She also takes supplements made by her sponsor, SD Pharmaceuticals, including green coffee beans. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO IN LONDON, ONT.

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Expense scandal. Tories block key Duffy witness

Conservative senators blocked a bid Thursday to have a key figure from the audit firm Deloitte testify about alleged interference into the review of Sen. Mike Duffy's expenses.

The move came as the Senate's internal economy committee heard from three other Deloitte partners about the audit they had done into Duffy's living claims between February and May.

Deloitte's Gary Timm confirmed what had been revealed in a police report last week — that Michael Runia, one of the firm's managing partners, called him to inquire about the Duffy audit. Runia was not a member of the audit team.

An RCMP court filing last week revealed that Runia made the call at the request of Conservative Sen. Irving Gerstein, who in turn had been prompted by the Prime Minister's Office.

When Liberal Sen. George Furey later moved to have Runia appear to answer questions, Sen. Gerald Comeau, the Conservative chairman of the committee, ruled against him, saying it's not the committee's job to conduct police-style investigations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trail of dust

Comet ISON no match for the sun

Once billed as the comet of the century, Comet ISON probably didn't survive its encounter with the sun.

Scientists said images from NASA spacecraft showed the comet approaching for a slingshot around the sun on Thursday, but just a trail of dust coming out on the other end.

"It does seem like Comet ISON probably hasn't survived this journey," U.S. Navy solar researcher Karl Battams said in a Google+ hangout.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Workers walk out after colleague's suicide

Halifax. One employee says management harassed Peter MacKenzie to get him to retire sooner

HALEY RYAN
Metro in Halifax

Nearly 200 workers at the Irving Shipyard in Halifax walked off the job Thursday morning after employees said resentment "boiled over" when they learned a co-worker had killed himself following a suspension, and what they say was months of harassment by management.

A shipyard worker who preferred not to give his name said he "almost cried right on the spot" when he heard of Peter MacKenzie's death, whom he said he worked with for 25 years.

"He was singled out and harassed in many regards," said the man. "We've had enough and it's as simple as that.... It boiled over."

Workers left their jobs around 7:30 a.m., lining both sides of Barrington Street at the bottom of Devonshire Avenue and crossing the street each time the lights changed.

Union president Cliff Pickrem said MacKenzie was suspended for 30 days due to poor workmanship on his scaffolding Tuesday but later heard an engineer say the work was "quite up to standard."

In a statement, Irving said "It is not appropriate to speak about details regarding individual employees."

Halifax RCMP spokesman Cpl. Scott MacRae said they received a suicide call for a home in Eastern Passage on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. and found a 58-year-old man dead.

Workers at the Halifax Shipyard walked off the job on Thursday after they say a fellow worker killed himself following months of harassment.
HALEY RYAN/METRO IN HALIFAX

Metro reached out to the victim's family, who preferred not to comment.

Tyler Stewart, 29, was among many who said the company has become much harsher and more disciplinary in the last year and half since Irving won the national shipbuilding contract and new management came in.

"A lot of the older gentlemen, they're trying to almost make them retire ... they want to make their lives miserable," Stewart said. "Unfortunately it has to come to this to make a better situation."

Pickrem and national union rep Rick Rose came from negotiations just before noon and said Irving's president was flying to Halifax. They told the crowd management understood their frustration, but was asking everyone to continue working.

Many shouted "no way" and left the property, saying they would return Friday.

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Non-believers start their own global church

Our father, who art in England? Atheist collective claims to be the fastest-growing church in the world

KIERON MONKS
Metro World News in London, U.K.

Come for the service, stay for the coffee: Standup comedians turned humanist ministers Sanderson Jones and Pippa Evans lead London, England's leading atheist church, the Sunday Assembly. NICK CUNARD/METRO WORLD NEWS

Minister Sanderson Jones addresses the crowd. NICK CUNARD/METRO WORLD NEWS

The congregation at a Sunday Assembly service. NICK CUNARD/METRO WORLD NEWS

The Sunday Assembly started small in 2012, hosting monthly ceremonies at a deconsecrated church in a chic London, England, suburb. Founded by comedians Sanderson Jones and Pippa Evans, the events sought to combine the warmth of a congregation with irreverent entertainment, featuring songs and life-affirming lectures.

As word spread, the assembly became a community of active participants, inspired by the mantra of "live better, help often, wonder more." The local city council reclaimed their venue, but the assembly, undeterred, found new homes across London, the United Kingdom and beyond, as eager followers joined the movement and founded their own chapters. In the past two months, affiliated Sunday Assemblies have opened in 22 cities across five countries.

The creators deny that their idea has become another religion; they say they simply wish to provide the social hub missing in many godless communities. "We are born from nothing and go to nothing. Let's enjoy it together," proclaims the first of their 10 "commandments."

The Sunday Assembly now claims to be "the fastest-growing church in the world," citing a "3,000 per cent growth rate" in the past year. Jones and Evans have spent much of 2013 on tour — from the U.S. Bible Belt to the Australian outback — that will extend the reach further still.

The movement has not been without its critics, and the comedians are frequently heckled in traditionally religious areas, but the concept is now firmly established.

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Recommendation. Ban federal instant messaging to preserve message trail

Canada's information watchdog is recommending a virtual ban on instant messaging with federally issued BlackBerrys and other wireless devices because the texts evaporate so quickly, erasing part of the government record.

In a special report to Parliament, Suzanne Legault says instant messages are automatically deleted — usually after 30 days — meaning Canadians can't request them under the Access to Information Act.

Legault says a government proposal would "put the right of access at further risk" by allowing instant messages to be auto-deleted after only three days. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Another hit to BlackBerry

Some 98,000 BlackBerry devices have been issued to government institutions.

- But there is no government-wide policy on the use of text-based peer-to-peer forms of communication such as BlackBerry Messenger, PIN-to-PIN and Short Messaging Service (SMS).

Quoted

"If instant messages, including PINs, were treated in the Government of Canada in the same manner as emails, many of the concerns about the impact of instant messaging on access would be addressed."

Suzanne Legault, Canada's information commissioner, said in her report

Market Minute

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Nasdaq and Dow Jones closed for American Thanksgiving.

Focus on technology

CN Rail launches $10M safety plan

Canadian National Railway Co. says it's investing $10 million in a special program to enhance its ability to detect equipment defects, such as hot wheels and bearings in its rolling stock.

The Montreal-based company, one of North America's largest railway operators, said it's part of CN's efforts to improve the safety of its system.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

John Manley

Skills gap needs to be filled so Canada doesn't fall behind

Former cabinet minister John Manley says Canada needs to fix the skills gap between workers and employers before the country lags even further behind internationally.

Manley, who is now the head of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, says there needs to be a strategy to address the country's poor performance on skills and education outcomes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Random biz fact of the day

75%

75 per cent of job seekers use traditional networking to gather more information about a company.

CAREERBUILDER

Yikes! Ever feel like you're being tracked at the mall? Turns out you might be, with retailers turning to technology to track shoppers in a bid to tailor the shopping experience to customers. SEAN GALLUP/GETTY IMAGES FILE

You're not paranoid, stores are spying on you

Online and IRL. Retailers are tracking your movements using cookies, heat sensors and cellphone signals

Advances in technology have never made tailoring deals to shoppers this holiday season so easy — or so creepy.

Online stores have long-tracked your movements on the web through 'cookies.' And bricks-and-mortar stores have started tracking you too — experimenting with heat sensors and monitoring cellphone signals in their stores to monitor which aisles attract the most attention.

One product, called Shopperception, uses the same motion-detection technology as the Xbox Connect to pick up a customer's movement, including whether they picked up a product. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He knows all

"You can't have Christmas anymore without big data," said Jeff Chester, executive director at the Center for Digital Democracy. "You know that song where Santa knows when you've been sleeping? He knows when you're awake? Believe me, that's where he's getting his information from."

Dotty advice in Dot Complicated

For most expectant mothers, there's a fairly typical to-do list to tackle as the due date approaches.

When you're a member of the tech savvy Zuckerberg clan, the one linked to the world-changing Facebook empire, there's an entirely different set of important tasks that naturally comes to mind.

There's some preliminary Googling to do before settling on a name, and there are URLs, email addresses and social media accounts to register for.

Yes, Randi Zuckerberg — older sister of Facebook founder Mark — made sure she secured a website address and email address for her now two-year-old son Asher in preparation for his birth, and talks about why she thinks it's so important in her new book Dot Complicated, a guide to managing the ever-changing demands of technology and social media.

"Of course I did that for my son," says Zuckerberg, the social network's former director of market development and current CEO of Zuckerberg Media. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Asher Zuckerberg, 2, already has his own website and email address. What about your toddler? GETTY IMAGES FILE

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Sausan S. from Toronto, ON

metro

Douglas Coupland

Douglas Coupland's latest novel, Worst. Person. Ever., is available from Random House Canada.

Day 20

metronews.ca/temp

Temp Figures It All Out

If you came here expecting a happy ending, that's exactly what you're going to get. It's a few months later, I'm now Mrs. Xu, there are twin Xus in the offing, and the twins will be in line to inherit over a billion dollars. I remind myself of this every time I think of the coffee room's Girl Guide chocolate-bar honour box, and how horrified I always was to find out staffers had shortchanged it, and how I paid out the difference from my own pocket.

What about TWK? Don't worry about the old gang — they're doing just fine. The building is now home to Mr. Xu's vanity project (and mine), which is to be the world's largest online retailer of vintage and high-end sneakers. Sarah No. 1 is once again in charge on online marketing development, and Sarah No. 2 is back developing e-commerce strategy. This time, their decisions will have a chance of being implemented and making some kind of difference.

With a slight romantic twist, Sarah No. 3, who I never really got to know, is seeing Kyle, who quit the refinery after a week spent inhaling its magic aromas. Kyle is now getting a full sleeve of ink on each arm and is in charge of "Branding Atmosphere," which means — I'll be honest — I have no idea what, but I'm just so glad he's no longer inhaling oil. I'll always have a soft spot for that loveable lunkhead who kind of flirted with me, and who I kind of flirted with back when we were both younger and dumber.

The Danimal we now call "The Shaker" because we send him out doing anything that involves old-school middle-management people shaking each other's hands: Conferences and land leasing and that kind of stuff. It's a remarkably effective category and he loves it. Dan and Chantelle split up quite amicably. Chantelle and Darren are engaged and living in the gated community together. Chantelle's lips have shrunk and she looks a tiny bit more human and promises not to get more work done.

The present is all we have. And really, how does Kate Winslet manage to always drop those pounds?

And the happiest ending of all is for Kurt, the old guy by the stoplight, who now has his own office out by the delivery bay where his main task is to sit, enjoy life and maybe watch the Carpenters on VHS — he refuses to go online.

So maybe you entered this story expecting there to be a Boogeyman — someone who we can yell at, and whack with sticks like a piñata. But there is no Boogeyman here. There's only the times we live in, and we can bitch about them or we can move forward, and if you don't move forward, well, you'll be left behind, left in the past, which makes no sense — because the present is all we have. And really, how does Kate Winslet manage to always drop those pounds?

THE END

Random fact of the day

The difference between poisonous and venomous animals: "If you bite it and you die, it's poisonous. If it bites you and you die, it's venomous."

SOURCE: WTFFUNFACT.COM

Wages

Equal work, equal pay

The Workers Action Centre is campaigning for equal pay as part of its advocacy for workers' rights, which includes approaching politicians and conducting online campaigns.

"Permanent workers are earning a lot more," said centre organizer Sonia Singh. "The typical statistic is that temp workers earn 40 per cent less than permanent workers.

"The government should include in the law that temp-agency workers receive the same wages as permanent workers when they are doing the same work." **MIKE DONACHIE/METRO**

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Race to the bottom

Government jobs no sure thing

Government temp jobs are no longer the coveted positions they used to be. Wages for temp workers in the public sector have fallen by up to 40 per cent since the feds started awarding contracts to the lowest bidder, according to the Association of Canadian Search, Employment and Staffing Services. **METRO**

Random biz fact of the day

98%

An overwhelming majority of job recruiters used social media to search for candidates in 2012.

SOURCE: WORKOPOLIS

The clock is ticking

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

TEMP is ... well, temporary

Douglas Coupland's 20-day novella is a pop-up project and will disappear from our website this Monday at 12:01 a.m. EST. If you've missed an instalment, there are still three days to catch up at temp.metronews.ca — before it is gone forever. **METRO**

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RON BURGUNDY? COMING TO WINNIPEG

THE METRO LIST

Neil Morton
metronews.ca

1 Tom Hanks. In the most random moment of 2013 possibly, Hanks showed up at the Grey Cup in Regina. Turns out he was there cheering on the Tiger Cats with his L.A. pal Martin Short, a Hamilton native. Hanks wore a Ticats toque (and later a Riders toque), hung out with The Sheepdogs and sat in the chilly stands. Can we adopt him as ours?

2 Twitter and Time. This year, Time announced a unique new partnership with Twitter as part of their Person of the Year issue. Users can vote for their choice by tweeting with the hashtag #TIMEPOY. The readers' choice poll ends Dec. 4. So go ahead now and cast your vote for ... Miley?

3 Movember wrap up. I wore my mo proudly this year, and raised over $1,000 to join Mo's Platinum Club. One of the feel-good stories of this year was three buddies who cycled from Vancouver to Toronto and raised nearly $100,000 for Movember in their Moustache Ride Across Canada. Amazing guys, amazing cause.

4 @bOringtweets. Who would think that a boring Twitter account would be a hit? But it is. Its nearly 140,000 followers get tweets like "I've just looked at something," "I've just signed for a parcel for next door," and "I hope I dream about cardboard again. That was one crazy dream." I would keep giving you examples, but I have to watch paint dry.

5 Ron Burgundy. Will Ferrell's fictitious Anchorman character will be in Winnipeg this Sunday covering Canada's Olympic curling trials dubbed Roar of the Rings for TSN. They should consider hiring Burgundy permanently: Ratings would go through the roof.

6 Toronto + Bon Jovi = NFL? Toronto football fans were living on a prayer wondering whether their city would ever get an NFL franchise, but thanks to Bon Jovi, that might become a possibility. The rocker is a leading contender to buy the NFL's Buffalo Bills and with some powerful and rich T.O. friends, move them to the city.

7 Global anchor Katie Couric. No, not for Global News. Couric will now be the global anchor for the resurgent Yahoo. She will start next year and be the "face of Yahoo News," CEO Marissa Mayer wrote in a blog post. In effect, Couric will now be the global ambassador for Yahoo. This move is another example that the future of TV is online.

8 Harvard. The Ivy League school got some negative attention after a video was released asking students: "What is the capital of Canada?" and answers ranged from Vancouver to Ontario. Duh! It's not right, because us Canadians all know the capital of the United States is New York, eh?

9 Social media jobs. A Workopolis study says jobs for social media experts will be obsolete in 10 years as digital natives enter the workforce who are already able to do that work, so having social media skills will no longer be a differentiator for us digital immigrants. Also, we'll soon be able to schedule tweets 10 years in advance so our work here is complete.

10 Paul Bissonnette. You might not have heard of the Canadian NHLer but his Twitter account @BizNasty2point0 is a riot. His Twitter bio says: "Play in the NHL for the Phoenix Coyotes. Well sort of. Once played in the ECHL for the Wheeling Nailers, seriously, that was the name." With tweets like "If you ever feel insecure about your looks, go to the Vegas airport and sit at a nickel machine and smoke," this is a gem. 475,000+ followers agree.

Follow The Metro List on Twitter @TheMetroList

ZOOM

Wood you believe it

ANDY WILLSHEER/REX FEATURES

Vintage vehicle created from oak

A man has made a VW Beetle — out of wood.

Momir Bojic from Celinac in Bosnia and Herzegovina has hand-built the impressive Bug with mind-boggling patience, using skilled woodworking to create intricate detailing. Everything from the bonnet to the gearshift has been carved by Momir in his garden workshop. **METRO**

Slow and steady wins building race

Progress was necessarily slow because of the work's labour-intensive nature.

Momir said: "Some days my wife and I might end up with just two or three rows of pieces on a panel, but this was irrelevant as far as I was concerned because I'm a bit of a perfectionist. Accuracy was far more important than worrying about how long the work was taking." **METRO**

Wife chips in for hubby's project

Momir, who spent time working at the Volkswagen Transporter manufacturing plant in Hanover, Germany, got some help from his wife Nada.

"I was intending to undertake the task by myself, but after my wife saw the amount of effort involved she felt I was crazy to try and do it all on my own and was happy to offer her assistance in the project." **METRO**

Motorbike made from locust wood

Momir isn't the only man from Eastern Europe adept at making wooden vehicles.

Istvan Puskas from Tiszaros, Hungary, spent two years building a motorcycle from weather-resistant black locust wood.

Puskas used cow horns as a handlebar and exhaust pipe, and a gasoline engine from an old Fiat. **METRO**

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

Terrified of stepping foot in a shopping mall during Black Friday or the rest of the holiday season? There's a beautiful place you can pop into to get your shopping done without the Jingle Bells soundtrack, oversized faux cedar trees or never-ending lineups: The Internet.

ISTOCK IMAGES

Sift:

The site launched about a year ago as a website that mined your email looking for deals and promotions that may interest you. Now, with the help of $2 million for seed funding, they've launched an iPhone app that lets you shop right from your phone. Wait for their upcoming social function.

Slice:

Not exactly a shopping site, but more like an online shoppers personal assistant. Slice keeps track of what you buy and lets you know if you're eligible for a price adjustment, recalls, and other things you may want to know about your purchases.

Karmaloop:

Look sharp AND get good deals on trendy new weekending duds from Karmaloop. Site often has promo codes to get your saving started (Black Friday code is BLKLIGHT, FYI).

Comments

RE: Tips On (Cough) Hacking A Cold, by John Mazerolle, published Nov. 28

How about starting by improving your immune system.

I rarely get colds, and I haven't had the flu in 21 years, despite the fact that I work with a lot of people who get sick a lot. Flu shots..?? Never.

We are getting too caught up in cleanliness as a society. That's not to say I don't engage in personal hygiene. I just don't subscribe to the antibacterial everything that society wants us to.

My wife and four-year-old daughter also do not get sick. My daughter has been sick once since she was born. My tips..?? If you drop it on the floor, pick it up and eat it. If you cough, cough into your hand. And, eat a pound of dirt a week.

Remember, your immune system is an army, and an army needs practice to fight effectively. Take away its ability to practise, and when real germs come along, it will not be able to fight it, and you'll get sick.

ns_hunter posted to metronews.ca

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: Send us your comments: winnipegletters@metronews.ca

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INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS
IN THEATRES DECEMBER 25!

Synopsis

The last couple of weeks have offered up the odd little treat at the movies, like an amuse-bouche to get our taste buds primed for the tastier stuff to follow in December. Not only does the 12th month give us Christmas, Boxing Day, Kwanzaa and New Year's Eve, we also get a delicious buffet of great movies. This week the Reel Guys look ahead to the 31 days that sate our appetite for great movies while feeding the voraciously hungry Oscars.

The Wolf of Wall Street, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, is one of the films to get excited for this Christmas. CONTRIBUTED

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

'Tis the season for great films

Ones to watch. The weather outside is frightful, so duck inside to catch one of the movies the Reel Guys are looking forward to

Richard: Mark, people complain that trailers give away too much of the story, but one upcoming movie has been releasing trailer after trailer — usually not a good sign — and has yet to reveal itself. Apparently The Wolf of Wall Street, directed by Scorsese (do I have to write his first name? I don't think so) and starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Matthew McConaughey, is going to clock in at three hours, so no trailer, no matter how long or how many, can give away all the good stuff. All they have done is make me eager to see this stockbroker meltdown story. What's grabbed you?

Mark: I'm looking forward to The Wolf of Wall Street too. But I've already decided that Inside Llewyn Davis, the new Coen Bros movie about the Greenwich Village folk scene in 1961, will be my favourite movie of the year. Perhaps I should actually SEE the film before making my decision, but I know, Richard, I just know! I've been waiting for someone to make a movie like this for a long time, and who better than the Coen Bros? The trailer looks terrific and Justin Timberlake looks perfect in his orange alpaca cardigan, not that it would influence my decision in the least.

RC: Timberlake is such a conundrum for me. He's a wildly talented guy whose movies frequently don't work. My fingers are crossed that for him, Llewyn is more Social Network than Runner Runner. Saving Mr. Banks is another one I'm looking forward to. I'm a sucker for old Hollywood so the story of Walt Disney (played by Tom Hanks) wooing P.L. Travers (Emma Thompson) for the rights to Mary Poppins is up my alley. That, and I'd watch Thompson do anything — bake a chicken, read the phonebook or play an uptight spinster.

MB: Here's a guilty pleasure: Grudge Match, the story of two aging boxers facing off for the first time in 50 years. Since the boxers are played by De Niro and Stallone, it's like a dream mash-up: Raging Bull vs Rocky! I'm hoping Will Smith gets a dream sequence cameo as Ali. And let's not forget American Hustle, David O. Russell's new film about greed, lust, politics, and the Mafia. Sounds like a perfect title.

RC: Three things make me want to see American Hustle: the trailers (which are awesome), Christian Bale's beer gut and Jennifer Lawrence's extravagant hairdos.

MB: Wait! Make that De Niro's beer gut and Stallone's hairdo and it's a Grudge Match!

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Josh Gad never put his dreams on ice

Frozen. Actor was ready to give up on making it in show biz when his mother offered him some wise advice

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

Josh Gad plays Olaf, the optimistic snowman in Frozen, which is playing in theatres now. CONTRIBUTED

Josh Gad, the voice of Olaf the optimistic snowman in the new Disney animated film Frozen, thanks his mom for some very well timed advice. "My mother, God bless her," he says, "allowed me to keep dreaming."

The story starts in 1993.

"I was sitting in a dark theatre watching Aladdin," he says. "Robin Williams is playing this insane genie character. I'm on the floor, as is the rest of the audience, and I looked over at my mom and said, 'I want to do that one day,' meaning, I want to be the comedic relief sidekick in one of these Disney films."

Cut to a decade later.

"I was about three years out of college and I called my mom up and said, 'I don't think I want to do this anymore.' She started crying. I said, 'I'm going to go to law school.' I thought my mother was going to celebrate that she wouldn't have to worry about me anymore. But she was really disappointed. And I said, 'Why are you disappointed?' She said, 'Because you've been dreaming about this for 15 years, but you are only allowing yourself to live out your dream for three years and I think that is unfair to yourself.' It was very startling to hear her say that."

"A week later I got my first big break on Broadway doing a show called The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. I guess it was at that time I realized I was going to be OK.

"Book of Mormon was the point at which I realized I had reached a new level. That I had made it. I wasn't a working actor anymore, I was an actor who was a part of something very special and that would allow and afford me more opportunities to do what I had dreamed of."

Those opportunities include starring in TV shows like 1600 Penn and movies like Jobs, and, of course, making his dream from 1993 come true with Frozen.

"To get that phone call, saying, you are that guy," he says, "I had to hold the phone down because I was sobbing with joy."

Olaf, his comedic sidekick snowman, already has at least one fan — Gad's young daughter.

"She was two-and-a-half when I took her to see her very first movie in a movie theatre, which was Monster's University. The teaser for Frozen, which featured just my laugh [played before the movie].

"Off of that laugh she turned to me and said, 'More dada. I want more dada.' I had to turn away from her because I was embarrassed by the tears."

Quoted

"To get that phone call, saying, you are that guy...I had to hold the phone down because I was sobbing with joy."

Josh Gad on getting the part in Frozen

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Drama

Philomena

Director. Stephen Frears

Stars. Judi Dench, Steve Coogan

We first meet Philomena (Dame Judy Dench) on the 50th birthday of the son she never got to know. Born out of wedlock in 1950s Ireland, her boy was whisked away from the Magdalene Laundries where they lived, and was adopted by an American couple. Her story finds its way to Martin Sixsmith (Steve Coogan), a jaded journalist who thinks Philomena's past is too good to be ignored. Philomena carefully treads a line between touching and humourous, building a story of heartache and loss without ever being maudlin.

RICHARD CROUSE

Drama

Blue is the Warmest Color

Director. Abdellatif Kechiche

Stars. Léa Seydoux, Adèle Exarchopoulos

This Palme d'Or winning French film may be one of the most frank depictions of sexual awakening to ever hit mainstream screens. It certainly is one of the longest. In three hours it establishes the attraction between Adèle (Adèle Exarchopoulos), a high school student, and artist Emma (Léa Seydoux). It is love at first sight, and fiery, but will passion be enough to sustain it? Despite its length and raw performances from its leads, the film is more content to voyeuristically detail the action than delve into the story. RICHARD CROUSE

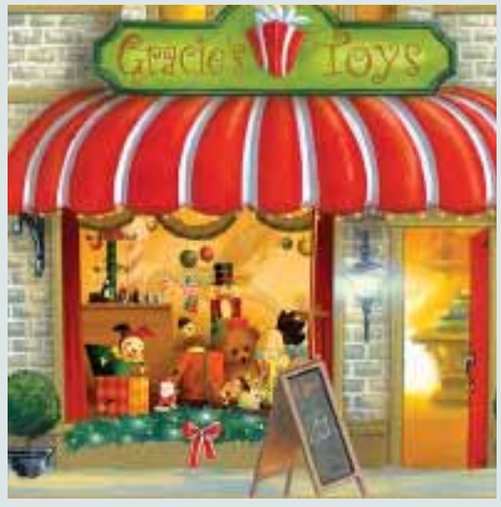
Festive finds

Jacquie Lawson 2013 Advent Calendar

MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
scene@metronews.ca

iPad
Free

This free calendar from popular e-card artist Jacquie Lawson offers a charming animated story every day as a country village, filled with cosy shops and wildlife, prepares for Santa's arrival.



When grandma wants an autographed photo

Out of the Furnace. Zoe Saldana's latest role has her working with some heavyweights — and her family is proud

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Zoe Saldana is in some pretty good company in Out of the Furnace, co-starring alongside Christian Bale, Forest Whitaker, Woody Harrelson, Casey Affleck, Willem Defoe and Sam Shepard in director Scott Cooper's follow-up to Crazy Heart. Just don't expect her to watch it more than twice.

It's quite the impressive ensemble in this. Who was already on board when you joined the cast?
Christian was already on board, Sam Shepard was already on board, then everybody else was still up in the air. But they were the names that were mentioned. Casey was almost a yes, I believe. So when I heard these names I really prayed that it was going to be everybody that joined the cast because those are actors that I've always wanted to work with. And to actually have them all together, it's like having pizza, cheeseburgers and ice cream at the same time (laughs).

Some actors can't stand watching their own films. How about you?
I only have it in me for maybe two screenings, and then after that I can't do it. I like to see it and feel very happy for everything first, then the second time you're watching it and you're paying attention to what everybody's doing, and then after the third time it's going to be about everything else — "Oh, my hair … " "Did they have to use this take? There was another take that was so good." After the third screening you just can't watch it anymore. You revisit it every two or three years when a family member forces you to sit down with them and watch it while they hold your hand. Which is what happens to me and my grandma.

You have to give them a little leeway because it's family.
Yeah. Like my poor grandma, she's been asking me to give her an autograph since I did Center Stage 15 years ago, and I'm not going to write my grandmother an autograph. That's just ridiculous. I'm not going to sign my name on a picture of myself and go, "Here, Grandma!" It's just uncomfortable.

Zoe Saldana stars in Out of the Furnace, which opens next Friday. CONTRIBUTED

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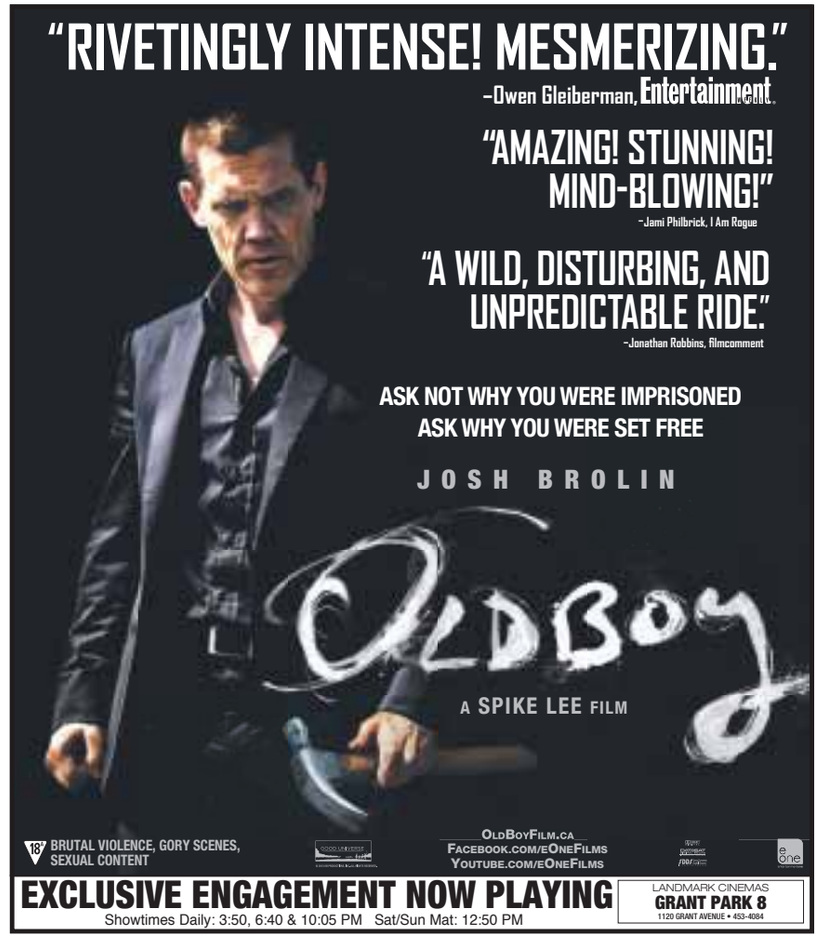

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., NOV. 29 TO THURS., DEC. 5 TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire. CONTRIBUTED

Cinema City McGillivray 2190 McGillivray Blvd.

About Time (PG) Sat-Sun 12:45
The Book Thief (PG) Fri 4:20-7:15-10:05 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:20-7:15-10:05 Mon 4:20-7:10-10 Tue 4:20-7:15-10:05 Wed 4:20-7:10-10 Thu 4-7:10-10
Captain Phillips (14A) Fri 4-6:55-9:55 Sat-Sun 3:50-6:55-9:55 Mon-Thu 4-6:55-9:55
Frozen (G) No Passes Sat-Sun 12:05
Frozen 3D (G) No Passes Fri 4:55-7:25-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:30-4:55-7:25-10 No Passes Mon 4:05-6:30-9 No Passes Tue 4:55-7:25-10 No Passes Wed-Thu 4:05-6:30-9
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri 5:45-8:05-10:20 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:30-5:45-8:05-10:20 Mon 5-7:20-9:35 Tue 5:45-8:05-10:20 Wed 5-7:20-9:35 Thu 5-10:05
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) No Passes Fri 4:15-6:45-7:30-10-10:45 No Passes Sat-Sun 12-1-3:15-4:15-6:45-7:30-10-10:45 No Passes Mon 5:20-6:45-8:30-9:55 No Passes Tue 4:15-6:45-7:30-10-10:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 5:20-6:45-8:30-9:55 No Passes Fri 6:30-7:20-9:55-10:45 No Passes Sat-Sun 3-4-6:30-7:20-9:55-10:45 No Passes Mon 6:30-8-10 No Passes Tue 6:30-7:20-9:55-10:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 6:30-8-10
Philomena (14A) Fri 5:30-8-10:25 Sat-Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:25 Mon 4:30-7:05-9:30 Tue 5:30-8-10:25 Wed-Thu 4:30-7:05-9:30
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Sat-Sun 2
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri 7:30-10:25 Sat-Sun 4:45-7:30-10:25 Mon 7-9:30 Tue 7:30-10:25 Wed-Thu 7-9:30 Fri-Sun 4:50-7:40-10:30 Mon 4:15-7-9:40 Tue 4:50-7:40-10:30 Wed-Thu 4:15-7-9:40

Cinema City Northgate 1399 McPhillips Street

Bhaji in Problem (PG) Fri 7:30-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:55-7:30-10:15 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:45
Bullett Raja (14A) No Passes Fri 7:10-10:10 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:40-3:50-7:10-10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:45-8:40
The Counselor (14A) Fri 7:40-10:20 Sat-Sun 1:05-4:25-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:10
Despicable Me 2 (G) Sat-Sun 12:20
Despicable Me 2 3D (G) Fri 7:20 Sat-Sun 2:40-5-7:20 Mon-Thu 5:40
Enough Said (PG) Fri-Sun 9:30 Mon-Thu 8
Escape Plan (14A) Fri 7:15-9:55 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:20-7:15-9:55 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:35
The Fifth Estate (14A) Fri 7-9:50 Sat-Sun 1-4:10-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:20
Monsters University (G) Sat-Sun 12:50
Monsters University 3D (G) Fri 6:55 Sat-Sun 4-6:55 Mon-Thu 5:25
Prisoners (14A) Fri-Sun 9:40 Mon-Thu 7:55
Singh Saab the Great (14A) Fri 6:50-10 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:40-6:50-10 Mon-Thu 5:20-8:30

Cinematheque 304-100 Arthur

Harry Dean Stanton: Partly Fiction (STC) Fri-Sat 7 Sun 2
Jean Nouvel (STC) Thu
John Hirsch: Haunted by Dreams (STC) Wed 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Tue
Oil Sands Karaoke (STC) Fri-Sat 9 Sun 7
Philip Johnson: Diary of an Eccentric Architect (STC) Thu 7

Famous Players Kildonan Place 1555 Regent Ave W

Frozen (G) No Passes Sat-Sun 11:50
Frozen 3D (G) No Passes Fri 7:40-10:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 2:30-5-7:40-10:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:30-8:20
Homefront (18A) Fri 7:15-9:50 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:30-7:15-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:10
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) No Passes Fri 6:30-7-9:45-10:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 12-12:30-3:15-3:45-6:30-7-9:45-10:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:20-5:50-8:30-9
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (18A) Fri 7:30-10 Sat-Sun 2-4:20-7:30-10 Mon-Thu 6-8:45
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Sat-Sun 1
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri 6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 3:50-6:50-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:40

Grant Park 8 Cinemas 1120 Grant Ave.

12 Years a Slave (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 3:20-6:35-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 12:25-3:20-6:35-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 3:20-6:35-9:35
The Book Thief (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 3:35-6:45-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:30-3:35-6:45-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 3:35-6:45-9:50
Dallas Buyers Club (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 3:30-7:05-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 12:35-3:30-7:05-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 3:30-7:05-9:45
Frozen (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri-Thu 4-9:40
Frozen 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 6:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:55-6:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 6:55
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 3:25-3:45-6:30-6:50-9:30-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:20-12:45-3:25-3:45-6:30-6:50-9:30-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 3:25-3:45-6:30-6:50-9:30-9:55
Oldboy (18A) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 3:50-6:40-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 12:50-3:50-6:40-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 3:50-6:40-10:05
Philomena (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Fri 3:55-7-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Sat-Sun 1-3:55-7-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, No Passes Mon-Thu 3:55-7-10

Landmark Globe Cinema 393 Portage Ave

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri 6:50-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:50-6:50-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:40
Blue Is the Warmest Color (R) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 2-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Short Term 12 (14A) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:30-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30

Landmark Towne Cinema 8 301 Notre Dame Avenue

About Time (PG) Fri 7 Sat-Sun 12:30-3:15-7 Mon-Thu 7
Delivery Man (PG) Fri 7:15-9:45 Sat-Sun 12:45-3:15-7:15-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:45
Escape Plan (14A) Fri-Thu 9:40
Frozen (G) Sat-Sun 3:15
Frozen 3D (G) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 12:30-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20
Homefront (18A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:45-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) Fri 6:25-6:45-9:30-9:45 Sat-Sun 12:15-12:45-3:25-3:45-6:25-6:45-9:30-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:25-6:45-9:30-9:45
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (18A) Fri 7:15-9:40 Sat-Sun 1-3:30-7:15-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:40
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Sat-Sun 3:30
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri 6:50-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:45-6:50-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:30

SilverCity Polo Park 815 St. James Street

12 Years a Slave (14A) Fri-Sun 9:30 Mon-Thu 9:35
The Book Thief (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:10 Mon-Tue 1-4:05-7:05-10:05 Wed 4:05-7:05-10:05 Thu 12:45-3:50-6:20-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Delivery Man (PG) Fri-Sun 11:55-2:40-5:20-8-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:10-4:55-7:35-10:15
Die Hard (STC) Thu 7
Frozen (G) No Passes Fri 1:20-4:05-6:45 No Passes Sat 11:10-1:20-4:05-6:45 No Passes Sun 1:20-4:05-6:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:20-4:05-6:55
Frozen 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:05-2:45-5:20-8-10:35 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:20-2:50-5:20-7:55-10:30
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:10
Homefront (18A) Fri-Sat 12:40-3:10-5:45-8:20-10:55 Sun 12:40-3:10-5:45-8:20-10:45 Mon-Thu 12:15-2:40-5:05-7:45-10:25
How to Train Your Dragon (PG) Sat 11
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:30-3:45-7-10:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:15-3:30-6:45-10 No Passes Fri 12-2-3:15-5:15-6:30-8:30-9:45 No Passes Sat 11-12-2:20-3:15-5:15-6:30-8:30-9:45 No Passes Sun 12-2-3:15-5:15-6:30-8:30-9:45 No Passes Mon-Wed 1:45-3-5-6:15-8:15-9:30 No Passes Thu 1:45-3-5-8:15-9:30
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire — The IMAX Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:45-4-7:15-10:30
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (18A) Fri 12:35-3:05-5:40-8:05-10:30 Sat 3:05-5:40-8:05-10:30 Sun 12:35-3:05-5:40-8:05-10:30 Mon-Thu 2:35-5:05-7:30-9:55
Last Vegas (PG) Fri-Sat 12:25-3-5:35-8:10-10:50 Sun 12:25-3-5:35-8:10-10:40 Mon-Thu 1:40-4:20-7-9:40
The Metropolitan Opera: The Nose - Encore (STC) Sat 11:55
Philomena (14A) Fri-Sun 12-2:30-4:55-7:20-9:50 Mon-Tue 2:30-4:55-7:20-9:50 Wed 4:55-7:20-9:50 Thu 2:30-4:55-7:20-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri-Thu 1:55
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 4:50-7:40-10:20

SilverCity St. Vital 110-1225 St Mary's Rd

Captain Phillips (14A) Fri-Thu 7:10-10:10
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2 (G) Fri 12:10-2:30-4:45 Sat 2-4:30 Sun 4:45 Mon-Thu 12:25-2:35-4:50
Delivery Man (PG) Fri 12:15-2:40-5:10-8-10:40 Sat 2:40-5:10-8-10:40 Sun 12:25-3-5:30-8-10:30 Mon-Thu 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:40-10:20
Frozen (G) No Passes Fri 1:20-4:05-6:50 No Passes Sat 11:05-11:30-1:10-4-6:50 No Passes Sun 1:20-4:10-6:50 No Passes Mon-Wed 12:20-1-3:50-6:30 No Passes Thu 3:50-6:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Thu 1
Frozen 3D (G) No Passes Fri 12:05-2:35-5:15-7:50-10:25 No Passes Sat 12-12:30-2:35-5:15-7:40-10:25 No Passes Sun 12:15-12:45-2:35-5:15-7:50-10:25 No Passes Mon-Thu 1:50-4:45-7:30-10:15
Gravity 3D (PG) Fri 12:55-3:10-5:25-7:40-10:20 Sat 3:10-5:25-7:40-10:20 Sun 3:05-5:25-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 2:10-4:30-6:55-9:20
Homefront (18A) Fri 12:40-3:05-5:35-8:10-10:50 Sat 12:35-3-5:35-8:10-10:50 Sun 3:10-5:35-8:10-10:50 Mon-Wed 2:55-5:20-7:50-10:25 Thu 5:20-7:50-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
How to Train Your Dragon (PG) Sat 11
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG) No Passes Fri 12-12:30-3:15-3:45-6:30-7-9:45-10:15 No Passes Sat 11:50-12:20-3:05-3:35-6:30-7-9:45-10:15 No Passes Sun 12-12:30-3:15-3:45-6:30-7-9:45-10:15 No Passes Mon 12:15-2:50-3:30-6:15-6:45-9:30-10 No Passes Tue 12:15-2:50-3:30-6:20-6:45-9:30-10 No Passes Wed 12:15-2:50-3:30-6:15-6:45-9:30-10 No Passes Thu 12:15-2:50-3:30-6:45-10-10:15 No Passes Fri 1-4:15-7:30-10:45 No Passes Sat 12:50-4:05-7:30-10:45 No Passes Sun 1-4:15-7:30-10:40 No Passes Mon-Thu 12:45-4-7:15-10:30
Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (18A) Fri-Sun 10 Mon-Thu 9:15
Pipes & Sticks on Route 66 (G) Sun 12:30
Thor: The Dark World (PG) Fri 1:30 Sat 1:40 Sun 12:25 Mon-Thu 1:25
Thor: The Dark World 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:25-7:20-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:10-7-9:45

The future of cinema (starring you)

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SAM CASTONE
Metro World News

Casablanca HANSON LEATHERBY

Shawshank FUTURE CINEMA

Prometheus FOX

Ghostbusters LAURA LITTLE

The Drowned Man PUNCHDRUNK

You're walking down a dark metallic corridor, the disorienting sounds of machinery, attack alarms and soldiers in lockstep blaring from the room ahead. A minute ago, you were some hipster after work, three beers in. But now you're wearing a jumpsuit and traversing what appears to be a massive spaceship.

You see marines in zero-G gear, a decontamination room and a massive recon vehicle, 20 feet tall, surrounded by dry ice. It's like something out of Alien. No, rather, this is Alien. Or more specifically, the Alien spinoff Prometheus. And you're starring in it. Your living movie has just begun.

The above describes an event last year thrown by Secret Cinema, an arm of Future Cinema, the company that calls itself a "live cinema." It's part of a trend of immersive experiences around the world. The goal is participation, and Hollywood is listening: anything that peels you away from Netflix, and gets you to pay more, tends to do that.

"I see it as riding the edge of culture," Future Cinema founder Fabien Riggall told Wired last year. He has since declined interview requests, for fear he's revealed too much — Secret Cinema generates buzz by keeping the films themselves secret, hence the name. But we've been. After buying a ticket online ($60 and up), you're sent mysterious instructions about where to go and what costume to wear, but nothing more.

Then, after entering, you realize the abandoned office building is a living Brazil, the 1940s theatre is Rick's Café from Casablanca and the broken-down school is Shawshank Prison — you roam the spaces while drinking, playing games and being approached by actors, who might send you on missions (or devour you, if it's Prometheus). Then you finally watch the movie in situ.

Prometheus earned the company $1.1 million US, beating out the local IMAX, and had the blessing of director Ridley Scott, who introduced the film, via video, and donated props (that recon vehicle was real). The company's Shawshank Redemption experience reportedly raked in $2.7 million US. Yeah, people paid to pretend to be in jail.

Despite its cool cred, Future Cinema wasn't the first to be so bold. That honour goes to Punchdrunk, a British theatre company around since 2000. Their current productions include Sleep No More, an interactive adaptation of Macbeth, in New York, and The Drowned Man, in London, in which you wander through several warehouse floors of a noirish Los Angeles — a living, breathing, sepia-toned Grand Theft Auto, where every fairground, movie studio and bedroom has been constructed to the finest detail.

"We want to almost place the audience in an atmosphere where they're witnessing living films," says Felix Barrett, Punchdrunk's artistic director. "When we're directing it, we talk about wide shots and close-ups and we encourage each of the performers to imagine that they're heroes of their own movie."

The result is a choose-your-own adventure: you could end up following the town drunk for an hour, as he gets kicked out of the local diner; or watch the narrative, an adaptation of Woyzeck, that trails from room to room — or end up at the bar, enjoying a burlesque performer and happily (or anxiously) missing the "real show."

"We want to make theatre dangerous again so that you're out of your comfort zone," Barrett says. (How dangerous? With all the dark corners, we couldn't help but ask if he's caught anyone ... you know, interacting. "Ahhhh, we've caught people red-handed," he says. "We've had people who think they're performing and the lines blur too deeply.")

What's next? Future Cinema is planning a worldwide expansion, having just attempted events in New York, London and Greece. And Barrett plans to take his fake world experience into the real one. Imagine this:

"You book a holiday. You get a date, a locker and a key for the airport and you open your locker and you find out where you're flying to. You're given one instruction — say a café to go to — and then the show has begun and it's a completely surreal world — and you don't know who is a performer and who isn't." You saw The Game. Now live it.

By the numbers

$2.1M

The amount Future Cinema reportedly made on its Shawshank Redemption event.

Three more live-the-movies

The zombie mall experience

Arrive at an abandoned mall in Reading, England, and — boom — the door slams shut. There's a zombie outbreak and it's up to you to stop it. Using real BB guns to shoot fake zombies, this has you living Dawn of the Dead. See zedevents.co.uk.

Second Screen Live

"Bring your iPad with you to the movie," reads a poster for Disney's re-release of The Little Mermaid. You can sing along and play games with help from the second screen. It's for film fans "open to the communal experience," and it worked well for The Nightmare Before Christmas.

The film location tour

See Amelie's apartment, The Motorcycle Diaries' motorcycle and the bookshop from Notting Hill, along with other film locations in New York, California, Italy, Peru, Scotland and Tokyo — 20 in total. The $300,000 US price tag includes round-trip airfare, hotels and guided tours. See veryfirstto.com.

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Zac Brown, left, and Dave Grohl chat during a collaboration for the The Grohl Sessions Vol. 1. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zac Brown Band teams up with rocker Grohl on new series

Blending musical genres. First installment in new EP series is out Dec. 10 while second volume comes out next year with a documentary

You never know who you're going to meet while waiting in line at John Varvatos' store in West Hollywood. When Zac Brown bumped into Dave Grohl while picking up some altered clothes for the Grammy Awards, he didn't let the random meeting go to waste.

They bonded over their love of analog recording gear, and their new friendship eventually resulted in Zac Brown Band's newest release: The Grohl Sessions Vol. 1.

"I don't know how I tricked him into working with us, but it's really cool," Brown said.

The four-song EP is due out Dec. 10 on iTunes. It's the first of two planned releases produced by the Foo Fighters frontman and former Nirvana drummer. The second volume will come next year, along with physical releases, including vinyl and a documentary.

Grohl travelled to Nashville this month after a full-court press from Brown. They recorded four songs together in a week at the band's analog studio, taking a break in the middle to perform one of those cuts, Day for the Dead, on the Country Music Association Awards.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A meeting

In his first interview about the project, Brown said Grohl wasn't familiar with the band when they met.

- **Getting to know you.** Brown and members of the seven-piece Atlanta group sat in front of Grohl at the Grammy Awards a few days later, though, where they won country album of the year. Brown and Grohl kept in touch — and a friendship grew. Now Brown hopes Grohl can help take his band to a different audience. Brown is releasing the EP on his Southern Ground record label

All hail the almighty power of the Internet

SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

Let's all bow our heads and thank the Internet for the musical bounty that regularly washes up on our screens

God's Chorus of Crickets/Jim Wilson

This 1992 recording of crickets — yes, the insects — resurfaced recently. Turns out that when you slow down their chirping, angels appear to sing. It needs to be heard to be believed.

We Could Be Heroes/Dogs Sing for Cancer

Since cancer kills one in four dogs, a group of canines came together to sing this song to raise awareness of the problem. It'll melt your heart.

Bad Like That/ Hello Beautiful

Definitely the weirdest video I've seen this month. I can be summarized thusly: woman gives birth to Whitby band. Literally.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Blythe Danner. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Dear riff-raff: Stop bugging my extraordinarily accomplished daughter

Blythe Danner wants everyone to leave her daughter, Gwyneth Paltrow, alone. "I feel she's just extraordinarily accomplished in every area, and people don't like that," Danner says in an interview with the blog Naughty But Nice Rob.

"Some people don't like that, people who are bored and sit on their asses all day and just tap away. I mean, I don't read any of it, I just find it disgusting. There is a coarsening of our culture today that is just so tragic."

Brad Pitt

Brad and Shia don't play well together

Brad Pitt and Shia LaBeouf apparently aren't having the best of times working together on the Second World War drama Fury, currently shooting in the U.K.

"They have very different styles of working and it's not mixing well on a personal level," a source tells Radar Online. "Brad loves to joke around with his young co-stars, and especially on a very serious war movie, he'd love to take the edge off by kicking back between scenes. But Shia wants to stay in character the whole time."

Australia

How Justin's new hobby is going over Down Under

An Australian hotel is declaring itself a graffiti Belieber, despite being at odds with the city government. QT Hotel in the Gold Coast said it gave Justin Bieber permission to spray graffiti on its wall. The Canadian singer and others posted images online showing cartoon faces in fluorescent paint on an outdoor wall at the hotel in Queensland state.

After hearing criticism, the hotel changed its Facebook page cover art Thursday to show Bieber, his graffiti and the declaration: "He asked, and we said YES."

The Gold Coast mayor Tom Tate says the singer risked undermining the city's efforts to fight graffiti. "The last thing we want is to have graffiti glorified and more young people thinking it's a cool thing to do," he said.

In a letter to the hotel, Tate asserted the city can insist on removal of graffiti in private spaces if it's visible from public spaces.

But in further posts on its Facebook page, QT Hotel defended Bieber as an excellent hotel guest and said it wanted to promote graffiti as an art form. It invited artists to share examples of their work to be judged, with select artists being offered a hotel wall they could spray-paint themselves.

Bieber performed in Brisbane on Wednesday and has more concerts in Sydney on Friday and Saturday.

The 19-year-old pop star arrived in Australia after a troubled Latin American tour.

He apologized to Argentinians after images appeared to show him dragging that country's flag across the stage with his feet. He quit one concert early after apparently contracting food poisoning, and police in Brazil want to question him about another graffiti incident there.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kanye West

I didn't tell nobody not to buy no Louis Vuitton nohow, Kanye clarifies

Kanye West wants to clarify his stance on Louis Vuitton. The rapper insists he never ordered his fans to boycott the fancy fashion brand — since it would be unnecessary. "It's a misconception that I said boycott Louis Vuitton," he said during an interview with NYC radio station 92.3 Now.

"You can't boycott Louis Vuitton. I wouldn't tell nobody to boycott a brand that ain't nobody even thinking about no more. Nobody thinking about buying no Louis Vuitton." The beef apparently started after the head of the label declined West's request for a meeting.

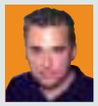
Ashton Kutcher and Demi Moore

Ashton and Demi are officially unhitched

After first separating in late 2011 and filing for divorce almost a year ago, Ashton Kutcher and Demi Moore have finalized their divorce, according to E! News. The papers were signed on Nov. 6 by Moore and on Nov. 14 by Kutcher, and according to the documents the parties have a written agreement about their shared property and neither will be receiving spousal support of any kind.

Liquid Assets

Old school Austrian sips



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

After more than two decades of taking it on the chin from their New World counterparts, the winemakers of Europe are making a comeback. While France and Italy are seeing the biggest upsurge in popularity, Spain, Germany and Austria are harvesting the benefits of the growing interest in their juice.

Yes, I said Austria — a country I bet you didn't know has been making wine for more than four centuries. Impossible-to-pronounce regional names and grape varieties that are virtually Austrian exclusive haven't helped the cause.

Though reds make up about 30 per cent of the country's output, whites are Austria's claim to fame. Typically drier and zippier than those made by its German neighbours, whites with the Grüner Veltliner grape have made a modern name for themselves as a partner for Asian cuisine (think sushi).

With its Franz Ferdinand-esque label and phonetic first name; the Grooner 2012 Grüner Veltliner ($13.11 - $16.99) is a modern take on old-school Austria with citrusy fruit, balanced acidity and a clean, green finish.

PRICES REFLECT RANGE ACROSS COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

A modern take on a Hanukkah tradition

Three Root Vegetable Latkes. The perfect fall-inspired recipe

ROSE REISMAN
For more, visit rosereisman.com or follow her on twitter @rosereisman

Potato latkes are a traditional Jewish or Eastern European dish, especially served on Hanukkah. I wanted to make a healthy version, so I used a blend of root vegetables. Use the grater blade of a food processor to grate the veggies.

1. In a skillet sprayed with vegetable oil, add the oil, onions and garlic. Sauté on medium heat for 10 minutes until tender. Add the sugar and sauté another 5 minutes. Place in a mixing bowl.

2. Squeeze out the excess moisture from the grated vegetables.

Ingredients

- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 2 cups diced onion
- 1 tsp crushed garlic
- 2 tsp brown sugar
- 2 cups grated peeled sweet potatoes
- 2 cups grated peeled baking potato
- 1 cup grated peeled parsnips
- 3 tbsp chopped fresh dill or 1 tsp dried
- 2 eggs
- pinch of salt and pepper
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup tzatziki

This recipe serves six. MIKE MCCOLL, FROM THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

Add the vegetables to the onion mixture along with the dill, eggs and salt and pepper.

3. Pat into 12 latkes. In two large non-stick skillets add 1 tbsp vegetable oil sauté on a medium heat the latkes for about 7 minutes per side or until vegetables are soft. Serve with the tzatziki.

Restrictions

Please be advised that this recipe may not meet all Jewish dietary or traditional requirements.

THE BEST OF ROSE REISMAN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN

Did you know 72% of pain sufferers regularly have trouble sleeping?
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TYLENOL NIGHTTIME

Want some tech support for that Black Friday shopping spree? We have a few apps to help you navigate those deals — or find a better one.

MATT PRIGGE
Metro World News in New York

5 Smart shopping apps

BFAds

For: iOS
Price: Free
Many shopping apps have sections focused exclusively on Black Friday. BFAds, as the acronym may suggest, is all about Black Friday. It rounds up the deals by store, keeps you abreast of news and allows you to compile a shopping list. Where some apps may dig up better deals while you're already out and about, BFAds allows you to make a game plan before you're stuck in traffic.

BuyVia

For: iOS
Price: Free
BuyVia starts with what you'd like to buy. Then it lets you pick the store. Then it finds you deals. It's a bit limited, handling mostly the big box chains. But if you'd like to keep things simple, with a guide who looks like Bill Gates, it will serve you well, helping to find the best price amid the gruesome rivalries waged between the major stores.

ShopSavvy

For: iOS
Price: Free
These apps pretty much perform the same function, with different methods. ShopSavvy does the competitive sales hunting thing, too, but it adds another, perhaps unexpectedly useful aspect: social media. Connect with friends to see their lists, and steal their gift ideas and their sales! We're all in this together, but shopping on Black Friday is also Darwinian, meaning we can grab the gift you wanted if you're trapped in an unmoving car pileup.

PoachIt

For: iOS
Price: Free
New to the shopping app wasteland, PoachIt allows you to search by scanning the barcode of an item to see if there's a better deal elsewhere. Or you can simply search by product. Looking for the best plasma TV? Just type that in and it will rank the best deals.

Shopular

For: iOS and Android
Price: Free
Once upon a time we were terrified of Big Brother one day knowing where we are. Now we find it convenient. When you walk into a store, Shopular buzzes you, telling you about the deals and feeding your coupons to the very place in which you presently stand. And it can be used the old-fashioned way, which is to say that you can search by store before you go. (See also: Zoomingo.)

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I won't spend a cent until I see a sale sign

Shop when it drops. This year's holiday customers are wary of shelling out the cash without a compromise

This holiday season, shoppers may not spend their green unless they see more red.

Despite signs that the economy is improving, big store chains don't expect consumers to have much holiday shopping cheer unless they see bold, red signs that offer huge discounts.

As a result, shoppers are seeing big sales events earlier and more often than in previous holiday seasons.

Retailers are trying to lure shoppers like Marissa Anwar, who has been doing more bargain hunting compared with last year.

The operations consultant, who lives in Toronto and New York City, said the economy "hasn't been great" and she's lost clients.

As a result, she cut her shopping budget to $2,800 from last year's $4,000.

"I was a former 'spendaholic,'" said Anwar, 29. "Now, I want to make sure I have the money before I spend it."

It's a problem that retailers know all too well.

Since the recession began in late 2007, stores have had to offer financially-strapped customers ever bigger price cuts just to get them into stores. But those discounts eat away at profits.

So far, Wal-Mart, Target and Kohl's are among more than two dozen major chains that lowered their profit outlooks for either the quarter or the year.

A big reason is the expectation that they'll have to offer huge discounts in order to get shoppers to spend.

Earlier discounting and lowered profit outlooks from retailers are becoming more frequent even though there are indications that the economy is recovering.

The job market is making strides. The housing market is starting to come back. And the stock market keeps hitting new highs.

All that would ordinarily lead Americans to spend more.

But so far, those improvements haven't been enough to shore up consumer confidence.

In fact, Americans' confidence in the economy is at its lowest level since April this year.

"Stores know that they are well into a fight," said Ken Perkins, president of the research firm RetailMetrics.

"The vast majority of consumers are distressed."

Retailers say economic worries continue to weigh on shoppers heading into the holiday shopping season.

"We continue to see anxiety regarding the economy and the ability to stay within household budgets, particularly among lower- and middle-income consumers," said Kathee Tesija, executive vice-president of merchandising for Target, which trimmed its annual profit outlook last Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

During the recession, retailers used sales to lure cash-strapped consumers into stores. The strategy has bred a group of deal junkies who won't shop unless they see a clearance sign. DAVID GOLDMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FretLight Guitar — $299 and up, clockwise, from left, LG SoundPlate — $499.99, Sony Walkman WH303 — $149.99, Mondo Wi-Fi Music Player — $179.99, Philips ShoqBox — $149.95, iPod Touch — $229 and up, SleepPhones — $39.95 and up, Skullcandy Crusher — $99.99.

Holiday gift guide

Don't fret music lovers

MIKE YAWNEY
For Metro

Music is the gift that keep on giving. Impress the audiophile in your life with one of these musical gadgets under the tree.

FretLight Guitar — $299 and up
Learn to play the guitar with a little high-tech help. LEDs light up the frets on this special guitar so you know exactly where to place your fingers. Download songs from your favourite artists or purchase entire sets of lessons. Available in acoustic and electric.

iPod Touch — $229 and up
There's a reason Apple's iPod remains the No. 1 MP3 player on the market. Beautiful design, gorgeous retina display and simple user interface make this a huge hit for all ages. Use it to store and play thousands of songs, or immerse yourself in the tens of thousands of apps.

LG SoundPlate — $499.99
This innovative speaker system sports a simple design, which doubles as a pedestal beneath your flat-screen TV. The 4.1-channel sound system comes with dual built-in subwoofers for rich, full sound while watching your favourite movies or TV shows. When your eyes get tired, enable the Bluetooth feature to listen to your favourite tunes from your phone or tablet. Available in December.

Philips ShoqBox — $149.95
Designed to withstand water and abuse, the ultra-durable ShoqBox is one for true road warriors. Two speaker drivers create loud, clear audio with the ability to pair two ShoqBoxes as left-right speakers. This unit doubles as a hands-free speaker for your phone.

Sony Walkman WH303 — $149.99
Headphones with a built-in MP3 player. Store up to 1,000 favourite songs with 4GB of internal storage, then decide how you want to listen to them. You can wear the headphones around your neck and let the built-in speakers pump out the tunes, or listen to your music privately with the headphones on your ears. A single charge will give you up to 20 hours of music enjoyment.

Skullcandy Crusher — $99.99
These headphones are designed with one thing in mind — bass. An adjustable bass slider will have music lovers fine-tuning their favourite tracks while an in-line mic on the cable lets you have phone conversations. These headphones are smart enough to turn on automatically when the tunes begin to play and turn off when not in use to preserve battery life.

Nuvo Wireless Music System — $229 and up
Spread music throughout the house. This system utilizes your home's Wi-Fi network to stream lossless level audio to multiple rooms. Supports music services such as Pandora, iTunes and SiriusXM satellite radio. This high-end system isn't cheap, but if you are an audiophile it's worth the hefty price tag of a complete system.

Mondo Wi-Fi Music Player — $179.99
Listen to radio stations from around the world. This Wi-Fi music player sports a beautiful 3.5-inch colour display that shows off station or album art as your favourite songs play. With more than 18,000 free radio stations to choose from there is always something to listen to.

SleepPhones — $39.95 and up
Pyjamas for your ears. These headphones are designed to play music while blocking light from your eyes to help you fall asleep faster. Play your favourite songs or download free full-length sleep tracks.

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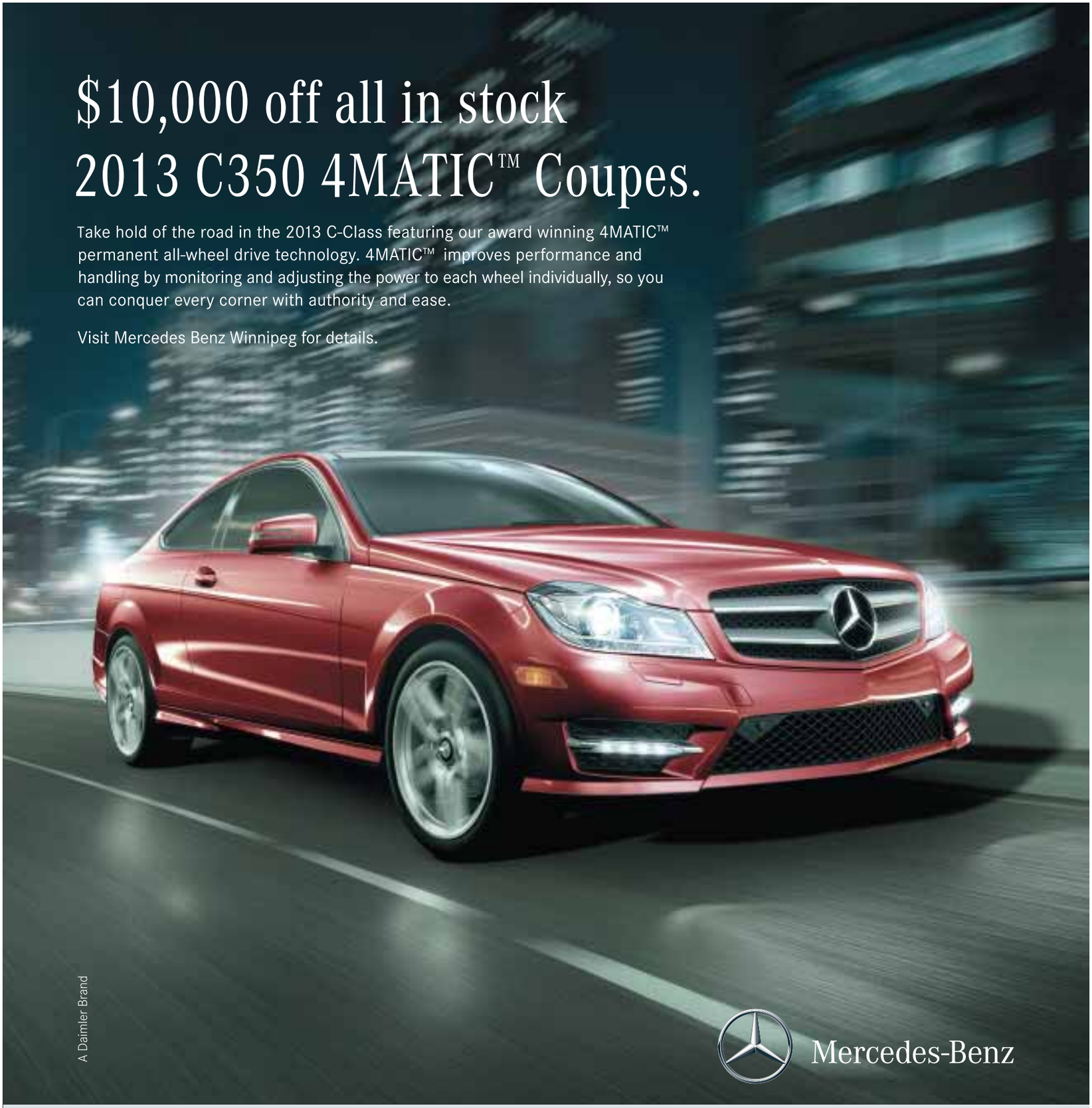
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Realtree Two-Piece Car Floor Mat Set, $34.99, available at Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

Black & Decker Portable FLEX vacuum, $149, available at Amazon.ca, blackandecker.com.

Armor All Complete Car Care Kit, $19.99, available at Walmart, walmart.ca.

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Wreaths were traditionally hung on the front door, welcoming others to the home. Today, wreaths can be used in a variety of ways to add a festive touch during the holidays. STEPHEN COBURN/SHUTTERSTOCK

A welcome decor touch

MICHELLE WILLIAMS
For Metro

Hanging a wreath is one of the easiest ways to add a festive touch to your home's curb appeal and interior decor. Traditionally, wreaths were hung on the front door, welcoming others to the home. These days, you can use multiple wreaths and literally decorate for the holidays in minutes.

We've asked Brian Rattray, a Toronto-based Canadian Tire general manager, to share his top 10 tips and trends on decorating for the holiday with wreaths.

1 Sinamay wreaths are super stylish this season. Sinamay is mesh ribbon or fabric that comes in Christmas colours and patterns that loop, gather and twist into a beautifully full and fashionably wreath. They look great inside and out.

2 Dress up your front door with pre-lit wreaths. They look impressive at night and make your front door the focal point of your holiday decor.

3 Place a wreath in your holiday theme colours on the table as a centrepiece and use pillar candles to fill the centre.

4 Hang them on doors to give rooms a simple festive touch or take down a few pictures and hang wreaths in their place — they look especially impressive over a fireplace.

5 Keep it natural with pinecone wreaths, which go great inside and out with just about any decor.

6 For a modern aesthetic, silver-, gold- or copper-coloured wreaths are just the right touch.

7 Hang wreaths in your windows and they can be enjoyed inside and out.

8 Multiple wreaths that are similar or identical help create a theme for your indoor and outdoor decor and make decorating incredibly easy. Use two or three and you don't need anything else.

9 Don't go simple. The most popular wreaths for the holiday season are overstated — the more embellished, the better.

10 Circular wreaths are traditionally most popular, but think outside the box and consider a swag, square or teardrop shape instead.

Gift baskets. A delicious option

If you can't spend time with friends or family members this holiday season, there are still ways you can send your greetings and share your love.

What about selecting Christmas fruit baskets? It is one of the best gifts you can select for the season.

A fruit basket can convey your greeting and express your care towards the health of the ones you love. Missed family members and friends can gather around the table to celebrate the occasion and create memorable moments with your gift basket.

The ability of gift basket designers plays a role in making fruit baskets so demanding during the holiday season. The fruits are beautifully designed to make it look like a precious gift. Well-known online fruit gift delivery stores hand-pick the best and freshest fruits to make the gift royal, romantic and delicious at the same time.

A holiday gift basket can be a tasty option. DASHA PETRENKO/SHUTTERSTOCK

Go online and place the order within minutes. Select the gift basket and schedule your delivery date.

If you want to add a fresh taste to your Christmas celebrations, then this can be your time to send Christmas fruit baskets for your friends and the ones you love.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Sunday 9:00 am – 6:00 pm
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Park Bib Pants, $80, available at O'Neill, oneilleshop.ca.

Hooded Bath Robe, $16, available at Joe Fresh stores, joefresh.com.

Toddler Boys Hat, $19.95, available at The Gap and babyGap stores, gapcanada.ca.

Sorel Preschool Snow Command Winter Boot, $54.99, available at Sporting Life, sportinglife.ca

Volcom Strange Face Mask Beanie, $33, available at Sporting Life stores, sportinglife.ca.

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Entertain kids with holiday-themed games

If you plan to throw a Christmas party for a group of children this year and you are stuck for game ideas, then here are some fun suggestions that will keep them truly entertained.

Simple, traditional party games can be adapted to suit a particular theme, so since it's a Christmas party you could adapt the following classic games into a Christmas theme:

Santa Says: This is just like Simon Says.

Snowman Freeze: When the music stops, children have to freeze and stand still like a snowman. The child who moves first is out until the last remaining child is left.

Pin The Tail On Rudolph: Play it like Pin The Tail On The Donkey, but adapted to pinning a big red nose on Rudolph.

Santa, Santa, Elf: Played like Duck, Duck, Goose, or you can choose other appropriate names if you prefer.

Pass The Christmas Gift Box: This is the same as Pass The Parcel, but wrap a box in Christmas paper and fill with pre-wrapped gifts for each child.

Apart from the traditional style games, here are some other games and activities that can be fun to play.

Fill The Christmas Stocking Relay: Ideal for a larger group of children, this game involves splitting the kids into two teams. Hang up a couple of Christmas stockings and get two large bowls and fill them with sweets. The children have to scoop up sweets with a spoon, walk over to the stocking and fill it, then run back and give the spoon to the next child in the line. The team that fills up the stocking with the most sweets is the winner. You can use anything suitable to fill the stocking if you don't wish to use sweets.

Pass The Candy Cane: Form two groups of children into two lines. The children have to pass a candy cane to each other using one finger only. The first team to pass the candy cane up and down the line is the winning team.

Decorate A Cookie: Kids love cookie decorating, especially when they get to eat their creations. Make cookies beforehand into shapes such as snowmen, Christmas trees, gingerbread men and round Christmas puddings. Children will have fun icing and adding sweets and sprinkles to them.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Play Pass The Candy Cane with a group of children. DESIGN PICS/THINKSTOCK

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Gift cards give you the opportunity to tailor a gift and still let the recipient make the final choice. ANNA SUBBOTINA/SHUTTERSTOCK

Gift cards. To give or not to give

MICHELLE WILLIAMS
For Metro

When it comes to giving gift cards, 90 per cent of Canadians either purchase or give gift cards in any given year. And this number is rising, says Steve Dekker, managing director of Blackhawk Network Canada, the company that runs many of the gift card mall kiosks within retail outlets in Canada. Still, many people worry when it comes to giving a gift card, so we asked Dekker to address some common concerns.

Is it personal enough? One of the biggest challenges for gift givers is finding just the right gifts. Gift cards for movies, restaurants, retailers or music give you the opportunity to tailor a gift and still let the recipient make the final choice.

I really like my friends and family to have a gift to open. Many people put gift cards into greeting cards or drop them into a stocking, but you can be more creative. Put them in small boxes and wrap them up or package them up with another gift so they can be unwrapped together.

I don't know what card they might like. Consider a Visa or Mastercard gift card. They might not be as personal, but the clear advantage is that they can be used anywhere. The disadvantage is there is an additional fee for these purchases.

I'm worried the card might be forgotten or get lost and never be redeemed. Typically, the faster you use the card, the less likely this is to happen. Keep your gift cards in a handy place so you don't forget you have them.

The card may expire before it's used up. There are consumer protection laws to prohibit expirations on cards or additional fees.

What if you don't want the card you're given? You can exchange or even return unused cards online for a small fee. Check out card-swap.ca for more.

Leave a lasting impression

If you are stumped about what to get someone on your holiday gift-buying list, why not consider a festive plant?

"A nicely wrapped plant in a decorative pot is a great gift for a tabletop," said Robin Godfrey, the owner of Lakeland Plant World in Dartmouth, N.S.

Godfrey describes three popular holiday house plants and how to care for them:

Poinsettia: Hands down, this is the most recognizable plant of the season.

Traditionally sold with bright red and green leaves, which remains the consumer favourite, it also comes in many patterns and colours. The tropical greenhouse-grown plant comes in different sizes, too, from four to 12 inches. With proper care, a poinsettia can last until spring. Don't overwater it, but don't let it dry out completely, either. It does well in indirect light but won't thrive in a cold room.

Holly: With bright red berries against dark-green pointed leaves, holly is synonymous with winter and the holidays. Plus, it's the gift that keeps on giving.

"You can plant holly in the ground in the spring," Godfrey said.

JANE DOUCET

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Tell me the story of Everest," she said, a fervent smile sweeping across her face, creasing the corners of her eyes. "Tell me about this mountain that's stealing you away from me."
George and Ruth sat on the drawing room floor, laughing and tipsy, dinner growing cold on the table in the next room. Ruth was cross-legged opposite him, her gray skirt pulled tight across her knees. She picked up the single sheet of thick ivory paper from her lap and reread the invitation from the newly formed Mount Everest Committee again. "My husband, the world-famous explorer." Ruth held up her glass of wine and he reached out with his own, the crystal ringing in the lamplit room. She was fairly bursting with happiness.
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Sensational seasonal scents

JANINE FALCON
For Metro

From lush florals to sexy, spicy scents, covetable perfumes for your lady loves.

Aerin Amber Musk, from a collection of modern scents inspired by Aerin Lauder's own touchstone moments and memories. $125 at Holt Renfrew and esteelauder.ca.

Armani Si, a sultry, intense scent with patchouli, vanilla, rose and woody notes; Giorgio Armani calls it his "tribute to modern femininity." $130 at Hudson's Bay.

Carven Le Parfum, a youthful, ultra-feminine bouquet of sweet pea, jasmine and ylang ylang grounded with woody notes. From $90 at Holt Renfrew.

Chloé Roses de Chloé, a fresh, warm, modern bouquet of rose and magnolia. $85 at Murale, Sephora, department stores and drugstores.

Clinique Calyx, the same distinctive vibrant and ground-breaking scent first launched by Prescriptives in 1986 now under the Clinique umbrella. From $62 at department stores and clinique.com.

Dolce & Gabbana Pour Femme Intense, a sexy, oriental floral of neroli, jasmine, tuberose and sandalwood. From $110 at department stores and Shoppers Drug Mart Beauty Boutiques.

Elizabeth Arden Untold, a warm, fruity floral with jasmine, black current and patchouli. From $75 at drug and department stores.

Estée Lauder Modern Muse, a striking "dual-impression" fragrance that appeals to some women as a lush floral, and to others as a sensual woody scent. From $65 at Hudson's Bay and esteelauder.ca.

Valentina Oud Assoluto, a decadent, heady scent of leather, rose, agarwood (oud), vanilla and dry woods. Limited edition, $148 at Holt Renfrew.

Fresh Life Eau de Parfum, inspired by dew-dampened grass, fresh morning breeze, the first rays of sunlight and cool, clear water. From $44 at Sephora.

Jo Malone London Saffron Cologne Intense, a spicy fragrance of golden saffron, pink peppercorn, incense and warm blond woods. $165 at Holt Renfrew.

Lancome Trésor Eau de Parfum Lumineuse, a softer, floral fruity interpretation of the original oriental floral Trésor. From $67 at drug and department stores, and lancome.ca.

Lancome Trésor Eau de Parfum Lumineuse, clockwise, from left, Dolce & Gabbana Pour Femme Intense, Fresh Life Eau de Parfum, Aerin Amber Musk, Armani Si, Jo Malone London Saffron Cologne Intense, Clinique Calyx, Estée Lauder Modern Muse, Chloé Roses de Chloé, Valentina Oud Assoluto, and Elizabeth Arden Untold.

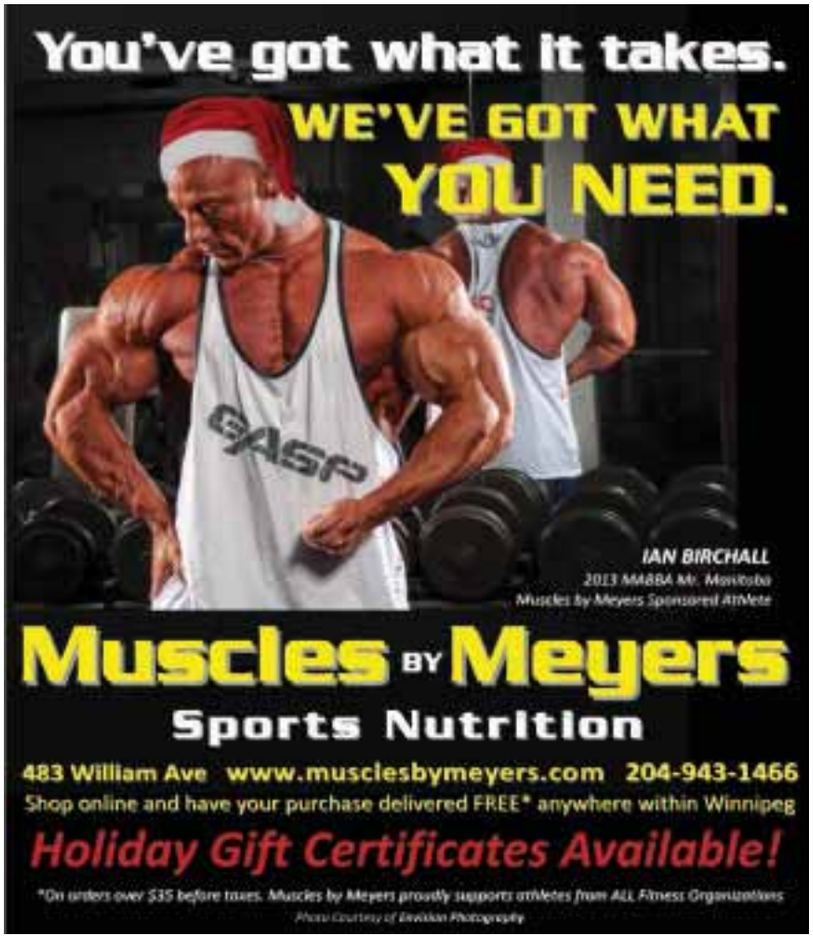
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Photo Courtesy of Envision Photography

National anthem flub

O Canada remixed

The Canadian national anthem got a bit of an unexpected makeover before Wednesday night's game between the Winnipeg Jets and New York Islanders at Nassau Coliseum.

American anthem singer Jill Schackner changed some of the words to O Canada, replacing the line "We stand on guard for thee" with "God sheds his grace on thee," a line from America the Beautiful. The lyrics to O Canada were prominently displayed on the Nassau Coliseum scoreboard at the time.

Schackner was apologetic for the flub, tweeting "Hey Canadians! So sorry that I accidentally changed some words in your national anthem tonight. It was truly an honest mistake, promise." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Don Cherry

Grapes' take on Rogers-NHL deal will wait for HNIC

Don Cherry will wait until this weekend's Hockey Night in Canada to weigh in on the future of the flagship hockey broadcast.

CBC says that during his Coach's Corner segment Cherry will address this week's announcement that Rogers Communications has gained national broadcast and multimedia rights to all NHL games starting next hockey season.

The iconic hockey broadcast will remain on TV for at least the next four years, but CBC will not have editorial control of the show. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jennifer Jones will try to qualify for the Olympics for the first time when the Roar of the Rings starts this Sunday in Winnipeg. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Will she or won't she get to Sochi?

Curling. Jones vies for her first Olympic berth at Roar of the Rings

Jennifer Jones is one of the most successful skips in Canadian curling but, starting Sunday, she'll be trying once more to capture the one prize that has eluded her so far — a trip to the Olympics.

Jones and her rink will join 15 more of Canada's best curling teams at the trials to determine which men and women will wear Canada's colours in Sochi.

"To represent your country at this huge sporting event, what the Olympics is all about, would be amazing," Jones said.

She has tried twice before, in 2005 and 2009 and struck out both times, not even making the playoffs. And it's not like she was struggling with her game at the time, winning the Scotties in both those years.

But the Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings Canadian Curling Trials isn't a competition where winning your province even gets you into this game.

In fact, 14 of the 16 teams vying to represent Canada at the Olympics come from just three provinces — Ontario, Alberta and Manitoba.

Jones knows from bitter experience how tough it can be to score the coveted spot on Canada's Olympic team, although right now she's the top-ranked female curler in Canada.

Jones has had more than just a taste of success with four national titles (three in a row starting in 2008), one world title on her CV and a third-place finish at another world championship in 2010.

The women's final will take place on Saturday, Dec. 7. Organizers are predicting huge attendance numbers for the trials, being held at the MTS Centre while the Winnipeg Jets are on an extended road trip. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scotch on the rocks

Will Ferrell, in the persona of his outrageous TV anchorman Ron Burgundy, signed on for the opening of the event as part of the broadcasting team with TSN curling veteran Vic Rauter.

4 SPORTS

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Packers carved up in Detroit

NFL. Lions bounce back to score 37 straight points against short-handed Packers

Matthew Stafford and Reggie Bush did their part to keep the Aaron Rodgers-less Green Bay Packers in the game.

Stafford turned the ball over a few times and Bush did once.

Instead of crumbling and losing confidence, both players bounced back and helped the Detroit Lions put together a dominant performance after an awful start.

Stafford threw three touchdown passes, including one to Calvin Johnson, Bush had 182 yards of offence and scored, and Detroit tallied 37 straight points to rout Green Bay 40-10 on Thursday.

"When we get out of our own way, we can be pretty special," Bush said.

Early on, it looked as if the Lions were going to find another way to waste chances to win a game and take control of the NFC North.

"It's easy when you lose a couple games in a row, particularly the fashion that we lost, for people to say, 'Here we go again,'" Detroit coach Jim Schwartz said. "I'm sure there were some people that were saying that, but they weren't on our sideline."

The Lions (7-5) had lost their last two games, five consecutive against Green Bay and a franchise-record nine straight in their annual showcase on U.S. Thanksgiving.

"It's a step in the right direction for us," Stafford said. "I'm sure the turkey will taste better."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On Thursday

40	10
Lions	Packers

Megatron reels in Rice

4,944

Detroit's Calvin Johnson now has 4,944 yards receiving in two-plus seasons, breaking Jerry Rice's NFL record for yards receiving in a three-year stretch. Rice had 4,850 yards receiving from 1993 to 1995.

Lions wide receiver Calvin Johnson dunks the football through the uprights after his 20-yard touchdown on Thursday in Detroit. Johnson had six receptions for 101 yards and his TD put the Lions up 24-10 early in the third quarter of a game they would go on to win 40-10. RICK OSENTOSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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NFL. DeMarco delights Dallas fans with TD troika

DeMarco Murray did the finishing work for the Dallas Cowboys. Backup Lance Dunbar made his job a lot easier.

Murray ran for three touchdowns, Dunbar had a career-high 82 yards rushing and the Cowboys overcame Oakland's fumble return for a score on the opening kickoff to beat the Raiders 31-24 Thursday.

Murray had 63 yards rushing but did most of his damage near the goal line, including a seven-yard score to put Dallas ahead for good early in the fourth quarter. Dunbar, who went out with a left knee sprain, sparked the tying and go-ahead touchdown drives in the second half, highlighted by a 45-yard run.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cowboys running back DeMarco Murray runs the ball against the Oakland Raiders on Thursday afternoon in Dallas. GETTY IMAGES

MMJHL

Grossmueller in playoff-MVP form

Last year's playoff MVP Ryan Grossmueller, of the championship-winning Pembina Valley Twisters, is continuing to demonstrate his goaltending prowess well into this season.

The 20-year-old netminder is putting up impressive stats after playing in just 11 games for the Morris-based club. Grossmueller leads the league with a 2.00 goals against average, an impressive .922 save percentage, and three shutouts, which alone account for half of the league total.

Friday night MMJHL action has Grossmueller and his Twisters hosting the St. Vital Victorias, the St. Boniface Riels visiting the Stonewall Jets, the Ft. Garry Twins visiting the Seven Oaks Raiders, and the River East Royal Knights hosting the Charleswood Hawks.

SCOTT STROH FOR METRO

Concussion lawsuit

Vaive wants name removed from lawsuit

Former Toronto Maple Leafs captain Rick Vaive has asked that his name be removed from the concussion lawsuit against the NHL.

Vaive's lawyer Trevor Whiffen claims the former 50-goal man wasn't provided with a copy of the claim beforehand and that he would not have agreed to the allegations made against the NHL had he been asked to review its contents. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Daniel scores 300th as Canucks glide to win in the capital

NHL. Senators serve up a dud on home ice in second half of back-to-back games

Daniel Sedin scored his 300th career goal and picked up an assist as the Vancouver Canucks defeated the Ottawa Senators 5-2 on Thursday night.

Vancouver (13-9-5) came in having lost seven of its past eight games, but finally put an end to the losing streak.

David Booth, Jason Garrison, Dale Weise and Mike Santorelli also scored for the Canucks as Luongo finished with 37 saves.

Clarke MacArthur and Mika Zibanejad scored for the Senators (10-12-4). Craig Anderson allowed four goals on 15 shots before being replaced by Robin Lehner (1 in 13).

Daniel Sedin JANA CHYTILOVA/FREE STYLE PHOTOGRAPHY/GETTY IMAGES

With the loss, the Senators, who beat the Capitals 6-4 on Wednesday, are now 0-4-1 when playing back-to-back nights.

Daniel Sedin tied the game 1-1 just 31 seconds into the second period as he beat Anderson far side.

Just 45 seconds later the Canucks took the lead on Booth's second goal of the season as he beat Anderson cleanly.

The Canucks then went on to make it 3-1 with a power-play goal as Garrison was left all alone in front.

Midway through the period Weise picked up a Garrison rebound and beat a sprawled Anderson.

Less than 20 seconds after Weise's goal Anderson's night came to an end.

The Senators managed to cut the lead in half as Zibanejad made it 4-2 with just over one minute remaining in the period. The Canucks made it 5-2 early in the third as Santorelli took advantage of a Jason Spezza giveaway behind the Ottawa net.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	25	16	7	2	69	52	34
Tampa Bay	25	16	8	1	76	63	33
Detroit	26	12	7	7	69	71	31
Montreal	25	14	9	2	67	52	30
Toronto	25	14	9	2	71	66	30
Ottawa	26	10	12	4	76	86	24
Florida	26	7	14	5	58	86	19
Buffalo	26	5	20	1	45	82	11

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	26	16	9	1	78	63	33
NY Rangers	25	13	12	0	53	61	26
Washington	25	12	11	2	76	74	26
Carolina	25	10	10	5	53	70	25
New Jersey	25	9	11	5	53	62	23
Philadelphia	24	10	12	2	52	60	22
Columbus	25	9	13	3	62	75	21
NY Islanders	25	8	14	3	70	85	19

Thursday's results
Vancouver 5 Ottawa 2
Edmonton at Nashville
Wednesday's results
Nashville 4 Columbus 0
Winnipeg 3 NY Islanders 2
Ottawa 6 Washington 4
Montreal 3 Buffalo 1
Carolina 4 New Jersey 3
NY Rangers 5 Florida 2
Tampa Bay 4 Philadelphia 2
Pittsburgh 6 Toronto 5 (SO)
Detroit 6 Boston 1
Phoenix 3 Minnesota 1
St. Louis 4 Colorado 1
Chicago 3 Calgary 2
San Jose 3 Los Angeles 2 (SO)
Friday's games
All Times Eastern
Winnipeg at Philadelphia, 11:30 a.m.
NY Rangers at Boston, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, 4 p.m.
Detroit at NY Islanders, 4 p.m.
St. Louis at San Jose, 4 p.m.
Calgary at Anaheim, 4 p.m.
Montreal at Washington, 5 p.m.
Colorado at Minnesota, 6 p.m.
Edmonton at Columbus, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	26	18	4	4	95	73	40
St. Louis	24	18	3	3	86	51	39
Colorado	23	17	6	0	70	49	34
Minnesota	26	15	7	4	65	61	34
Nashville	25	13	10	2	60	69	28
Winnipeg	27	12	11	4	72	78	28
Dallas	23	12	9	2	67	68	26

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	24	16	3	5	82	54	37
Anaheim	27	17	7	3	83	71	37
Los Angeles	26	16	6	4	69	56	36
Phoenix	25	15	6	4	83	79	34
Vancouver	27	13	9	5	72	70	31
Calgary	24	8	12	4	66	87	20
Edmonton	25	7	16	2	65	89	16

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Saturday's games
Vancouver at NY Rangers, 2 p.m.
Columbus at Boston, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Florida, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Washington at NY Islanders, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Calgary at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.
Anaheim at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Crosby, Pgh	13	20	33
Steen, StL	20	10	30
Zetterberg, Det	11	19	30
Malkin, Pgh	6	24	30
Tavares, NYI	11	18	29

Not including last night's games

MLS PLAYOFFS

CHAMPIONSHIP

MLS CUP

Saturday, Dec. 7
Kansas City vs. Salt Lake, 4 p.m., EST

NFL

WEEK 12
Thursday's results
Detroit 40 Green Bay 10
Dallas 31 Oakland 24
Pittsburgh at Baltimore
Sunday's games
All times Eastern
Jacksonville at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
New England at Houston, 1 p.m.
Arizona at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
Miami at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Buffalo, 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at San Diego, 4:25 p.m.
Denver at Kansas City, 4:25 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Washington, 8:30 p.m.
Monday's game
New Orleans at Seattle, 8:40 p.m.

NBA

Wednesday's results
Indiana 99 Charlotte 74
Orlando 105 Philadelphia 94
Memphis 100 Boston 93
L.A. Lakers 99 Brooklyn 94
Miami 95 Cleveland 84
Chicago 99 Detroit 79
Houston 113 Atlanta 84
Washington 100 Milwaukee 92 OT
Oklahoma City 94 San Antonio 88
Denver 117 Minnesota 110
Dallas 103 Golden State 99
Phoenix 120 Portland 106
L.A. Clippers 93 New York 80
Friday's games — All times Eastern
San Antonio at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Miami at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
Brooklyn at Houston, 8 p.m.
Washington at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
New York at Denver, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at Utah, 9 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

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Dickenson gives Stamp of approval

'This is the place I wanted to be'. CFL team's OC signs 3-year extension, adds asst. head coach role

Dave Dickenson
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

For Dave Dickenson, the decision to sign a three-year contract extension to remain with the Calgary Stampeders was an easy one.

While Dickenson has aspirations of one day becoming a head coach in the Canadian Football League, he decided that now wasn't that time.

"One of these days, yeah hopefully I can take that step to a head coach," said Dickenson, who was in the conversation for head coach vacancies in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Ottawa. "I didn't allow any offers nor did I get any offers. Other people called to talk and I just politely said I wasn't interested. It wasn't whether it would have happened or not. It wasn't important to me. It wasn't something that I wanted to even entertain."

Instead, Dickenson agreed to stay on as offensive coordinator with the Stamps, while also taking on the role as assistant head coach under his mentor John Hufnagel.

"I spoke with Huf and told him that I'd like to stay if we could make it work," said Dickenson, who has run Calgary's offence for the past three seasons, helping the Stamps lead the CFL with 1,595 points scored over that span. "I'm very happy to be back. It was a commitment to me that the club came to me and asked what my future was going to be and I really wanted to be here.

"I didn't want to move. The other opportunities to me weren't exciting. This is the place I wanted to be and my family wants to be. The organization to me is top notch."

With Dickenson calling the shots this past season, Calgary led the league with 549 points scored with an offence featuring rushing champion and most outstanding player Jon Cornish of New Westminster, B.C. The Stamps led the league with a 14-4 regular-season record. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
This should be an encouraging day and even if you don't accomplish anything remarkable, you will still make progress. Though what seems like no big deal to you may look remarkable to others.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Try not to put yourself under stress today because the planets suggest you will get more out of life if you take things easy. Treat what look like a major setback as no more than a minor irritation.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
There is no point complaining unless you intend to change it. If you give rivals the idea that you are upset about what they are up to, they might decide to do it more.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Something you used to get a great deal of joy from no longer thrills you. In a way that's good because it means you can devote the time and energy you spent on it to more serious creative matters.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Flattery will get you everywhere today and will be especially useful if you want to make a good impression on the work front. People in positions of power like to be told how wonderful they are.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Speak up and say what is on your mind but don't expect any applause. If you have any criticisms maybe you should try to make them sound more like positive suggestions.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You won't solve a problem by trying to force others to see it from your point of view. If they get the impression that you feel you are intellectually superior to, them they will go out of their way to defy you.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Try saying nice things to important people today. You may not believe a word of it but if you can get employers to support what you are doing it could mean the difference between success and failure.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
There have been times of late when it felt as if you were at the mercy of events but it isn't as bad as you think. With the Sun firmly placed in your sign, you should be more upbeat about your prospects now.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Make it your aim to find something to enjoy in everything you do. Whatever it is you are working on there is no reason why it should not make you smile.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may be eager to push ahead with a project but the planets indicate it might be best to wait a few days. Both tomorrow's Sun-Uranus link and next Tuesday's new moon will bring about new ideas.

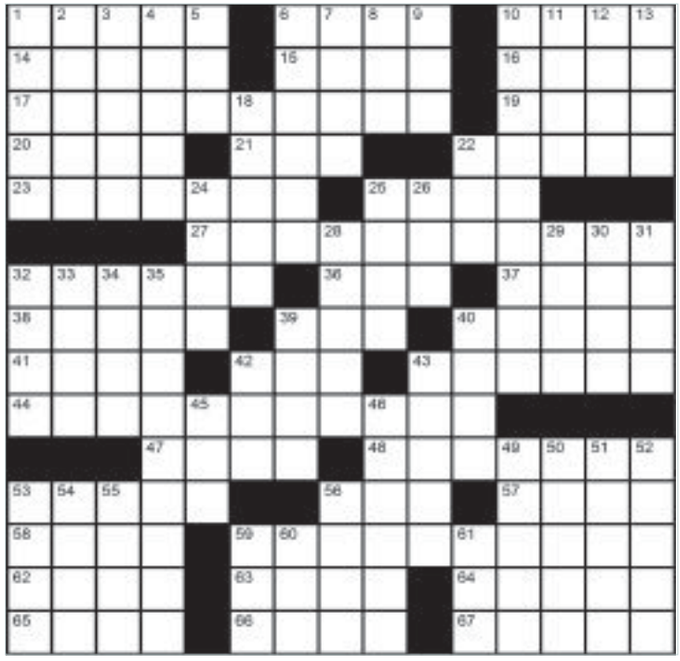
♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will see only what you want to see today. That's fine, but if you close your mind completely to new possibilities you'll be the loser.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



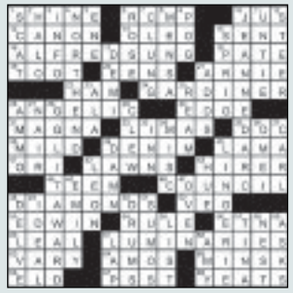
Across

1. Vermicelli
6. Piece of the puzzle
10. Gwyneth Paltrow's lifestyles website, __.com
14. Gelatin mould dish
15. James __ (Pulitzer-winning writer)
16. "__ la Douce" (1963)
17. Racecar driver Jacques, an honoured member of Canada's Sports Hall of Fame
19. Achievement
20. Good vs __ (Superhero's battle)
21. Bar beverage
22. Rock
23. Embark on a cruise: 2 wds.
25. Earth
27. It kicks off the Christmas shopping season: 2 wds.
32. Figures of speech
36. Sanction
37. Store event
38. Moved off course
39. "Way cool!"
40. Scatter
41. Docking spot
42. Sighed sounds
43. Snow-packed ski runs
44. Historic building from 1886 where The Second City in Toronto was famously located: 3 wds.
47. Fertilizer ingredient
48. Record-breaking building category
53. Quality
56. "Frasier" character
57. "Ah, me!"
58. This spot
59. Singer from Saint-Ignace, New Brunswick: 2 wds.
62. Buffalo kind
63. __ Cooper
64. Beaver-ish looking animal
65. Look after
66. Assorted [abbr.]
67. Highway-crossing animals

Down

1. Does road work
2. "__ __ always said..."
3. __ pea soup
4. Cash register drawers
5. Hotshot
6. Spain: Valencian dish of rice
7. Fluish feeling
8. Gun the engine
9. Football prop
10. Thingies put out annually by Oprah Winfrey, and most recently, Gwyneth Paltrow: 2 wds.
11. Celebrated cookie
12. Muscat is its capital
13. Hors d'oeuvre spread
18. Manicurist's concerns
22. Military address
24. Sleep Country Canada purchase, __ __
25. Timetable, cool-style
26. Commonly, poetically
28. English punk band, with The
29. Dash
30. Sheltered, nautically
31. Archery bow trees
32. Spellllling boo-boo
33. Racetrack fence
34. Was in debt
35. Chanel No. 5's magazine page: 2 wds.
39. Ms. Perlman
40. Window ledge
42. Go-Go's smash: "Our Lips __ Sealed"
43. Shopping __
45. Galway's country [abbr.]
46. English pop trio, __ Kitten
49. Espresso style
50. Upper crust
51. More sensible
52. Boris Godunov, and others
53. Fantastic, in slang
54. Boulevard in Montreal, __-Levesque
55. Cast or Wrought
56. Also-__
59. "This is yummy."
60. Crossword rendering of a segment of a road's dotted line
61. Mr. Stewart

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

7		9				2		6
	8		5		4		1	
2								3
		4	1		3	8		
	6						4	
		7	2		5	6		
4								8
	3		8		9		6	
9		8				1		5

Yesterday's Sudoku

4	6	9	3	7	5	1	2	8
5	1	2	8	9	4	6	7	3
7	8	3	1	2	6	9	5	4
2	7	4	6	8	1	3	9	5
8	9	6	5	3	2	4	1	7
3	5	1	7	4	9	8	6	2
9	2	8	4	1	7	5	3	6
1	3	5	2	6	8	7	4	9
6	4	7	9	5	3	2	8	1

Weather

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MAX: -8° MIN: -13°	MAX: -9° MIN: -14°	MAX: -8° MIN: -8°

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